

[John McDonnell responds to pound falling](#)

John McDonnell MP, Shadow Chancellor,

commenting on the pound falling after Tory leadership contenders Boris Johnson and Jeremy Hunt said they were opposed to the backstop, said:

“The instability and uncertainty caused by the Conservative Party leadership contest have real-world consequences. The commitment of both contenders to a No Deal Brexit makes it even more important the Government put an end to playing games with people’s livelihoods and call a General Election now.”

[Unprecedented cuts Conservatives have made to defence since 2010 – Nia Griffith](#)

Nia Griffith MP, Labour’s Shadow Defence Secretary, responding to the Defence Select Committee’s report *‘Shifting the Goalposts? Defence Expenditure and the 2% Pledge: An Update’*, which shows that MoD spending has been cut by 25% since 2010, said:

“It is hypocrisy of the highest order for both candidates for the Conservative leadership to talk of boosting defence spending when they have consistently voted for budgets, which have slashed the MoD’s funds to what they are today.

“This report highlights the severe and unprecedented cuts that the Conservatives have made to defence since 2010. Instead of considering what is necessary for our defence and security needs, Conservative Ministers have delivered crippling austerity which has put unprecedented strain on the men and women of our Armed Forces.

“You cannot do security on the cheap. The next Labour government will ensure that our armed forces are properly equipped and resourced to respond to wide-ranging security challenges.”

[Tory failure to deliver affordable childcare has left many families out of pocket and out of work](#)

Commenting on the Coram Holiday Childcare Survey, showing that working parents face an £800 bill for summer holiday childcare, Labour’s Shadow Education Secretary said:

“This report shows that holiday childcare costs continue to rise year after year under this Tory government. It is clear that they have failed to deliver affordable care for families across the country.

“This failure to provide free or affordable childcare to those who need it has left many parents not just out of pocket but often out of work, as employment just won’t pay after the cost of care.

“The next Labour Government will invest in expanded and improved high-quality, affordable childcare, as part of our National Education Service.”

[Naz Shah responds to Boris Johnson essay on Islam](#)

Naz Shah MP, Labour’s Shadow Minister for Women and Equalities, responding to Guardian reports of an essay by Boris Johnson arguing Islam had caused Muslim countries to be ‘literally centuries behind’,

said:

“This is as historically inaccurate as it is Islamophobic. Boris Johnson must fully apologise for his record of racist remarks.

“After his previous comments describing women wearing the burqa as ‘letterboxes’ and ‘bankrobbers’, which has been linked to a rise in hate crime targeting Muslim women, Johnson’s disgraceful views make him unfit to be an MP, let alone Prime Minister.

“His words will embolden the Islamophobes who, according to recent polling, make up over half of Conservative Party members, who are about to choose the next Prime Minister of our country.”

[Corbyn calls for UK to stop passing the buck on climate change to poorer countries](#)

Corbyn says UK contribution to climate crisis “even greater than we think” as he calls for UK to stop “passing the buck to poorer countries”

Speaking at Labour’s International Social Forum today (Sunday), Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn will announce that the next Labour government will act to stop the UK government hiding the country’s “true impact on our climate” by measuring the emissions created through our consumption as well as production.

Corbyn will explain that the way the UK only measures the emissions created through the production of goods and services in the UK, “hides our true impact on our climate” because “we don’t only contribute to climate breakdown with what we produce, we contribute with what we consume too.”

Over the past three decades, the UK has off-shored the production of manufactured and agricultural goods it consumes, along with the associated greenhouse gas emissions.

In 2016, emissions associated with imported goods made up 45 per cent of the UK's overall consumption emissions. While the UK's territorial emissions are falling, the UK's consumption emissions have barely changed in the past two decades.

Corbyn will announce that the next Labour government will "show true international leadership" by making Britain the first major economy in the world to measure the emissions we import, as well as those we produce.

Labour will amend the Climate Change Act to instruct the Committee on Climate Change to include an assessment of our "total footprint emissions" in their annual report to Parliament, measuring our progress against them and recommending policies to reduce them.

Announcing the policy, Jeremy Corbyn MP, Leader of the Labour Party, will say:

"The next Labour government will show true international leadership in tackling the climate crisis. We will face up to the climate emergency by recognising our real carbon footprint.

"Currently, when we measure a country's emissions, we are talking about the greenhouse gasses generated as goods and services are produced in that country. But for a country like Britain, that measurement hides the country's true impact on our climate because we don't only contribute to climate breakdown with what we produce, we contribute with what we consume too.

"Over the last two decades the UK has reduced emissions – but it has done so in part by off-shoring those emissions. "That isn't tackling global emissions – it is passing the buck to poorer countries.

"It's time we were honest about our contribution to the climate crisis: it is even greater than we think. So under Labour, Britain will

become the first major economy in the world to measure these consumption emissions and take action to reduce them.

“We shouldn’t see this as a burden. Offshoring our emissions isn’t just bad for the climate, it’s bad for UK industry.

“When we measure the emissions from goods produced in the UK but not those produced overseas, it puts industry here, especially energy-intensive industries like steel, at a disadvantage. So we will remove the perverse incentive to damage our own economy with no benefit to the climate.

“And we will send financial and technical support to the developing world, helping them adopt greener methods of production and reducing the carbon content of the goods we import.”