

Hundreds of thousands of part-time and temporary workers excluded from workplace pension – Debbie Abrahams

Debbie Abrahams MP, Shadow Work and Pensions Secretary,

commenting on the Government's announcement to extend auto-enrolment to workers

aged 18, said:

"The Government's announcement to extend auto-enrolment to workers aged 18 is a small step in the right direction. However, it is worrying that the income threshold still means people on the lowest incomes are not automatically included and enrolled in a workplace pension, excluding hundreds of thousands of part-time and temporary workers.

"Given that plans will also not be in place until the mid-2020s, coupled with the fact that people under 25 receive a lower living wage, many young people will continue to miss out both now and in their retirement.

"Labour will restore confidence in the workplace pension system ensuring it benefits the many not the few."

Ends

Senior Tories want to use Brexit to rip up workers' rights – Rebecca Long-Bailey

Rebecca

Long-Bailey MP, Shadow Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, commenting on reports today that Brexit ministers urge Theresa May to scrap EU working directive, said:

"This yet more evidence that senior Tories, including Boris Johnson and Michael Gove, want to

use Brexit as an excuse to rip up workers' rights.

"Theresa May must publicly reject this approach and condemn it in this week's Cabinet meeting. If she fails to do so then she will have turned her back on British workers. The directive offers protection to millions of workers who without it will be vulnerable to exploitation from unscrupulous employers.

"It is becoming increasingly clear that a Conservative Brexit will weaken workers' rights, deregulate the economy and slash corporate taxes. Labour will protect workers' rights and ensure that everyone gets a fair deal at work."

Ends

Labour call on Tories to guarantee police numbers – Diane Abbott

Ahead of the publication of the 2017/18 provisional Police Grant Report, Labour calls on Government to guarantee no further workforce reductions for the coming year.

Diane

Abbott MP, Shadow

Home Secretary, commenting on the provisional Police Grant report, said:

"The Tories' reckless cuts to policing have left the service at breaking point. We have seen a growing chorus of senior figures in policing warn that the current funding settlement is simply not enough to meet the growing demands they face.

"Yet ministers continue to insist that police have the resources they need, and to claim they have protected funding. If the Conservatives truly believe what they are saying then they should have no problem guaranteeing workforce numbers over the coming year.

"Labour in Government will invest in community safety by recruiting 10,000 extra

neighbourhood officers and ensure forces have the resources they need.”

Ends

This is an extreme and unacceptable executive bonus payment while home-buyers struggle – John Healey

Responding to the resignation of the chair of housebuilder Persimmon following a reported £100m remuneration package for the chief executive, Labour's Shadow Secretary of State for Housing, John Healey MP said:

“This is an extreme and unacceptable executive bonus payment while home-buyers struggle with high housing costs.

“Since 2010 the Conservatives’ have outsourced responsibility for building the homes Britain needs to big developers which has inflated profits and reduced the number of new affordable homes.

“Labour would make continuation of Help to Buy conditional on a tough new government deal with the housebuilders, including on executive pay.”

Nobody wants to see Uber replacing local bus services except Chris Grayling – Andy McDonald

Andy McDonald MP, Labour's Shadow Transport Secretary, responding to comments made by Chris Grayling about bus services being replaced by services like Uber, said:

“For many people, especially the young and the elderly, those living in rural areas and those who do not own a car, bus services are a lifeline.

“But rather than addressing the buses crisis, Chris Grayling’s solution is to say let them take taxis.

“This is a dim-witted approach from an out of touch Transport Secretary who hasn’t lifted a finger to stop bus routes being withdrawn and funding for

buses being slashed.

“Nobody wants to see Uber replacing local bus services except Chris Grayling.”