

[It's disappointing the Government has refused to extend support packages to those who completed their duties between 2006 and 2011 – Nia Griffith](#)

Nia

Griffith MP, Labour's Shadow Defence Secretary, responding to the Government's statement on locally employed staff who worked alongside British forces in Afghanistan, said:

"Afghan citizens who worked with British forces as interpreters or drivers put themselves in extreme danger and many continue to face threats and intimidation today.

"It is hugely disappointing that the Government has refused to extend support packages to those who completed their duties between 2006 and 2011. This arbitrary approach risks letting down those who put their lives on the line in support of our Forces. The Ministry of Defence should re-examine this short-sighted decision as a matter of urgency."

[The Government has conceded their plans for EU citizens are unfair and unworkable – Diane Abbott](#)

Diane Abbott

MP, Labour's Shadow Home Secretary, commenting on the Government admitting that the current system for EU citizens applying for permanent residency in the UK is unfit, said:

"Labour consistently argued that the Government's plans were unfair and unworkable. Now the government has conceded as much.

"But a lot of uncertainty remains, which affects both UK citizens living in the EU as well as EU citizens here. The Government needs to give clarity on what it

has agreed, and to stick to its word. Labour has always argued for guaranteed rights for UK and EU citizens.”

Ends

[New research shows there are far too many young people gambling in Britain today – Tom Watson](#)

Tom Watson MP,
Labour’s Shadow Secretary State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport,
responding to the
Gambling Commission’s ‘Young People and Gambling 2017 Survey’, said:

“This new
research from the gambling commission shows that there are still far too many
young people gambling in Britain today.

“It is worrying
that children continue to be bombarded with adverts promoting gambling
through
TV, online and via social media. 80 per cent of young people say they see
gambling adverts on TV each week.

“The rise of
‘skins’ gambling and other forms of gambling online or in games which
encourage
children to trade-in cosmetic online items for cash, only serve to
demonstrate
that our gambling laws are woefully out of date.

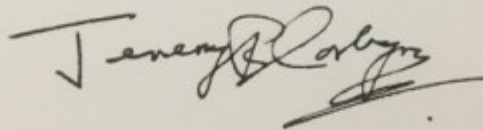
“The next Labour
government will bring in a new Gambling Act that ensures our gambling laws
are
fit for the digital age and finally tackle Britain’s hidden gambling
epidemic.”

[Labour Leader sends message of hope](#)

and peace for...



Wishing you a Merry Christmas
and a Happy and Peaceful 2018

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Jeremy Corbyn". The signature is stylized and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending from the end of the name.

Jeremy Corbyn MP
Leader of the Labour Party

Labour Leader sends message of hope and peace for Christmas

Labour Leader Jeremy Corbyn is sending out a message of hope and peace in his 2017 Christmas card.

The design echoes the cover of the party's general election manifesto, 'For the Many, not the Few', that helped inspire Labour's biggest increase in vote share since 1945.

The message inside reads: "Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Peaceful 2018."

Jeremy Corbyn MP, Leader of the Labour Party, said:

"Christmas is a time to reflect on the urgent need to transform our society to eradicate homelessness, loneliness and poverty, and bring about peace

around the world.

“This year we defied the pundits and in the snap General Election overturned Theresa May’s majority and her mandate, giving hope to millions of people that things can and will change.

“We look forward to 2018 as a government in waiting, ready to take over and serve the interests of the many, not the few.”

Inflation rise hits millions of working-class families and highlights Tory failures – Dowd

Peter Dowd MP,
Labour’s Shadow Chief Secretary to the Treasury, responding to today’s inflation figures, said:

“Today’s rise in inflation to its highest level in over five-and-half years is extremely concerning, and once again reveals that after seven years of Tory economic failure, this Government has no answers to the problem of wages continuing to fail to keep up with prices.

“We shouldn’t forget that there will be millions of working families who will be struggling this Christmas already as a direct result of government policies such as the benefits freeze and the public sector pay cap; this is a further reminder of just how bad this double whammy of rising prices and Tory austerity policies will be this month for them.

“The next Labour government will ensure working people’s living standards are protected with a Real Living Wage of £10 per hour, ending the public sector pay cap, and by building a high wage, high skill economy that works for the many, not the few.”

Ends