

Theresa May: More Diane Abbott than UKIP



This morning UKIP Thurrock Candidate, Cllr Tim Aker MEP blasted Theresa May and the Tory party for backing sliding on Brexit.

Cllr Tim Aker MEP said: “Without UKIP there would have been no Referendum. Without UKIP there would have been no vote to Leave the EU. Now, more than ever, we need UKIP MPs to make sure we finish the job and actually get Britain out of the EU on our terms, bringing back control of our borders, our laws, our fisheries and our money.

“Theresa May has talked a good game. She’s been doing this for years. When she was Home Secretary, every conference speech could have been written by UKIP. Her delivery, however, could have been orchestrated by Labour’s Diane Abbott.

“If you were to be blindfolded and heard policies such as police cuts, cuts to prison services and soaring net immigration to a third of a million, you would think I was reeling off Labour policies.

£1m to strengthen how Foundation Phase is delivered in Wales

The Foundation Phase encourages children to be creative and imaginative, making learning more enjoyable and effective. The funding will be used to develop a Foundation Phase Excellence Network, which will support the sharing of effective practice and work closely with the National Networks of Excellence in Science and Technology and Mathematics, which are already being developed.

Recent independent evaluations have shown that where Foundation Phase is being implemented well, it is raising the attainment of all children, but highlighted the need for greater consistency of delivery.

The new excellence network will:

- Help strengthen the links between schools, settings, consortia and local authorities to universities to develop research on professional learning for Foundation Phase practitioners.
- Use global and local evidence to develop nationally recognised Foundation Phase professional learning for staff.
- Support Pioneer Network Schools in the development of and professional learning for the new curriculum.
- Improve children's experiences of the Foundation Phase in settings and schools across Wales.

Minister for Life Long Learning Alun Davies said:

"The evidence shows that the Foundation Phase is working for our youngest pupils, with the majority achieving the expected results for their age.

"I want to make sure we build on this progress and continue to support our young people through their early years to make sure they have the best start in life. This investment will help us develop the skills of those who teach the foundation phase, create new training opportunities and ensure there is consistency across Wales.

Education Secretary Kirsty Williams said:

"The £1m for the Foundation Phase Excellence Network is part of our on-going investment to raise standards across our education system. We want to make sure our pupils have the skills and knowledge they need to succeed and thrive in the modern world."

Professor Iram Siraj from the Institute of Education, London said,

"The Foundation Phase in Wales is leading in the UK in providing a curriculum and approach which provides true, seamless continuity in children's learning from the early years to the middle of primary. We have seen a move away from over-formalised and over-controlled classrooms to spaces where experiential learning, enquiry and creativity is valued alongside literacy and numeracy."

Professor David Egan, Cardiff Metropolitan University said,

“The Foundation Phase Excellence Network is a very welcome step to promoting the excellent learning and teaching practice which should be at the heart of the future development of the curriculum for 3-7 year olds.”

Professor Edward Melhuish, Professor of Human Development, Birkbeck, University of London said,

“The developments to the Foundation Phase have already brought improvements in early years provision for the children of Wales. The new investment in the Foundation Phase Excellence Network promises yet further improvements in professional development that will benefit all.”

[You can't trust the Tories' promises on social care – Barbara Keeley](#)

Barbara Keeley, Labour's Shadow Mental Health Minister,

responding to the Tories' social care announcement ahead of their manifesto, said:

“You can't trust the Tories' promises on social care. In their last manifesto they promised a cap on care costs. But they broke their promise, letting older and vulnerable people down.

“It's the Tories who have pushed social care into crisis; their cuts to councils have meant £4.6bn axed from social care budgets between 2010-2015, leaving 1.2 million people struggling to get by without care. And NHS bosses have recently said that the money the Tories promised them won't help alleviate the problems, with bosses warning the system won't see anything like the level of resource required.

“We need real action to fix the system, not reheated broken promises with little detail about how they'll be delivered.

“While the Tories offer more of the same failure and broken promises, Labour has pledged action.

We'll

increase social care budgets by £8bn over the lifetime of the Parliament, including an additional £1bn for the first year. We will set up a National Care

Service to provide the care that people deserve."

'You can't trust the Tories' – Labour publishes dossier of Tory broken promises ahead of their manifesto launch

Ahead

of the Conservative Party's Manifesto launch, Labour is today publishing a document looking at the Tories' record of broken promises.

The

document – entitled: 'One Tory Manifesto. Two years of Failure. 50 Broken Promises' – lists 50 examples of when the Conservatives broke their word.

From

the NHS to education, from living standards to policing, the Tories have broken

their promises time and again.

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They promised on the economy, but they have missed every debt and deficit target they set themselves

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They promised to raise living standards, but working families are set to be on average over £1,400 a year worse off

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They promised to improve all standards of NHS care, but A&Es are in their worst state on record and hospitals are in financial crisis

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They promised to protect school spending, but per pupil spending is going down and class sizes are soaring

As

they launch their latest manifesto, it is a reminder that the Tories can't be trusted to keep their word.

Andrew

Gwynne, Labour's National Election Co-ordinator, said:

"When Theresa May launches the Tory manifesto we can expect her to make a raft of promises to the British people. But, as the Conservatives make their latest solemn pledge there's one thing we must bear in mind: we've been here before.

"Theresa May pretends otherwise, but she is a politician with a track record of failure and broken promises. From the economy to the NHS, and policing to schools, Theresa May's Tories have failed again and again to deliver on the pledges they made.

"They made promises, they quickly broke them; they would do so again. The Tories can't be trusted. Britain cannot afford five more years of them and their broken promises."

News story: Review of legislation update

The SSR0 has sent an update to consultation respondents on its review of the regulatory framework.

The regulatory framework for single source defence contracts came fully into effect in December 2014. It controls the prices of qualifying contracts and requires transparency on the part of defence contractors regarding their prices and capacity to continue to meet government requirements.

The Secretary of State is required to complete periodic reviews of the framework, with the first review to be completed by December 2017. The SSR0's functions include keeping the operation of the framework under review and making such recommendations for change to the Secretary of State as it considers appropriate. In carrying out a review, the Secretary of State must have regard to any recommendations made by the SSR0, provided these are submitted six months before the date on which the review is to be completed. This means that the SSR0 has to make recommendations in June 2017 in order to meet the statutory deadline.

On 30 January 2017 the SSR0 published a consultation which proposed a number of recommendations for the first review of the regulatory framework for single source defence contracts. The SSR0 has focused its proposed recommendations for change on three key areas: ensuring that single source spending is appropriately covered by the regime; enhancing transparency; and providing effective enforcement of the regime. As part of our consultation,

the SSR0 also held meetings and workshops with key stakeholders.

Before reaching our final conclusions and publishing our recommendations in June 2017, the SSR0 has today sent to consultation respondents an update on its review of the regulatory framework, outlining the feedback we have received from stakeholders and the progress made since the consultation closed on 24 March 2017.