## <u>Greens react to 'Awful April' price</u> hikes

1 April 2025 / 1 April 2025 by Green Party

Reacting to large price hikes that kick in today at the start of what has been dubbed 'awful April', co-leader of the Green party, Carla Denyer, said:

"Energy bills up to nearly £2000 a year. Water bills up by 31% in some areas. Basic food prices keep rising — the list goes on. People aren't fooling around when they say today is the start of "Awful April". Especially awful for single parents who we know will be hit hardest by these price hikes.

"These spiralling costs come on the back of axing winter fuel payments for pensioners, refusing to remove the two-child benefit cap and cutting benefits for the sick and disabled.

"These are political choices. Rather than making the poorest and most vulnerable in society bear the brunt of the cost of living crisis, Labour could have chosen instead to tax a tiny percentage of the wealth of multimillionaires and billionaires. They've made a choice, to take money off the old, ill and disabled.

"Labour have again and again made the wrong choices, which has left many of the poorest households at breaking point."

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## <u>Greens offer democratic alternative to</u> dead end of Reform

28 March 2025 / 28 March 2025 by Green Party

Responding to Reform's local elections campaign event, Green Party co-leader Adrian Ramsay MP said:

"We know people are struggling after 14 years of Conservative austerity, now followed by the crushing disappointment of a new Labour government making more cuts to front line services. But Reform will never be the answer to the decline of the two old parties.

"Reform is a party designed to benefit the very richest and has no track record of delivering for people. Green councillors up and down the country are delivering real hope and real change in their communities every day.

"We are offering a hard-working and democratic alternative to the dead end, divisive choice of Reform and their impossible promises."

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# <u>Spring statement targeting ill and disabled is "morally repugnant"</u>

26 March 2025 / 26 March 2025 by Green Party

Responding to the Chancellor's Spring Statement, the Co-Leader of The Green Party, Adrian Ramsay MP, said, "The Chancellor had a choice today. To rebalance our economy by asking the very wealthiest to contribute more, or to remove vital support from ill and disabled people. That she chose to take from the most vulnerable to balance her books is a damning reflection of how out of touch this government is. It is morally repugnant."

He continued, "And it's not just ill and disabled people who will suffer as the Chancellor doubles down on cuts to frontline services. This will weaken our communities and leave us all poorer. Labour once claimed that they were for the many, not the few — it's clear now that this is no longer the case."

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<u>Greens urge government to 'rebalance</u> <u>the economy' ahead of Spring Statement</u>



Green MPs outside the Treasury, from left: Siân Berry MP, Adrian Ramsay MP, Carla Denyer MP, Ellie Chowns MP. Photo: David Mirzoeff/The Green Party

- Green MPs pose with scales showing government's 'skewed priorities' as government slashes disability benefits while refusing to tax wealth
- They say a tax on assets over £10 million could raise nearly 5 times as much as Rachel Reeves's cuts to disability benefits
- Greens urge Reeves to abandon the planned cuts and 'rebalance' the economy in favour of ordinary people

Ahead of the Spring Statement the Green Party is urging the government to 'rebalance the economy', by reversing the planned cuts to welfare spending and instead taxing the wealth of multi-millionaires and billionaires.

The party's MPs say it is deeply unfair that those already struggling to get by will be pushed further into hardship because the government is unwilling to tax wealth fairly — and that while we are still feeling the effects of the Conservatives' 'failed austerity experiment' more cuts will only damage the economy further while leaving us unprotected from the climate crisis.

The day before Rachel Reeves is due to unveil her response to the OBR's economic outlook and set out her government's response, Green MPs posed with a set of scales representing the stark difference in the money the government plans to save with its welfare cuts and the amount that could be raised by taxing extreme wealth.

They say if the government took the advice of the <u>Patriotic Millionaires</u> and levied a 2% tax on assets above £10 million, this could raise £24 billion a year — almost five times the amount Reeves plans to save by slashing welfare

for disabled people.

### Speaking ahead of the spring statement, Adrian Ramsay, Green Party Co-Leader, said:

"It's not fair that this government is unwilling to introduce a modest tax on the extremely wealthy while removing vital support from a million disabled people.

"Fifteen years of austerity have driven our economy to the edge—forcing ordinary people to bear the burden while multi-millionaires, billionaires, and big corporations amass extreme wealth. Meanwhile our economy is not prepared to protect us from the climate crisis.

"Labour's plans will only deepen this inequality and push our economy further off-kilter. From removing the winter fuel payment from millions of pensioners to plans for more public service cuts, this government's priorities are completely skewed.

"Instead of doubling down on the Conservative failed austerity experiment and pushing more people into hardship, it's time to rebalance our economy for good.

"At the Spring Statement, Rachel Reeves can do just this. By taxing wealth fairly, she could invest in what this country desperately needs: giving communities the support they need, rebuilding our NHS, and taking action for a safe climate so we all have a future to look forward to."

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#### A "gargantuan waste of money"

25 March 2025 / 25 March 2025 by Green Party

Responding to the news that the government has given the go ahead to the largest tunnel in the UK under the Thames, Sian Berry MP said,

"The Lower Thames Crossing is a gargantuan waste of money that will dirty our air and increase road traffic danger and congestion across the South East.

"We have known for many decades that building new roads creates new traffic, and it's estimated that this £10 billion scheme will only help journeys on the Dartford Crossing for five years while it induces new journeys to clog up all the roads in the area in short order. How many years before a multibillion-pound relief road is suggested to cut congestion on the Lower Thames Crossing by those who want this scheme?"

"Instead of building ridiculously expensive and unnecessary new roads, we should be expanding our green public transport network to improve the day-to-day journeys of everyone who needs to get around, for a fraction of the cost."

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