

Minister Archibald responds to the rising price of home heating oil and fuel

Minister Archibald has today commented on the rising price of home heating oil and fuel emerging as a result of the situation in the Middle East.

Greens call on Rachel Reeves to scrap failing fiscal rules to tackle cost of living following Spring Forecast

3 March 2026 / 3 March 2026 by [Green Party](#)

Responding to the spring forecast, the Green Party has called on the Government to scrap its failing fiscal rules, and tackle the cost of living by ending the household benefit cap, bringing water into public ownership, and introducing rent controls.

Dr Ellie Chowns MP said:

“Hannah Spencer’s decisive by-election victory last week shows it is action to tackle the cost-of-living crisis that voters desperately want to see. But the truth is the Labour Party has failed to properly get to grips with this crisis and today was no different.

“When bills are still sky-high, rents are extortionate, and millions of children remain in poverty, it is incredibly disappointing that this government continues to tie itself in knots with its self-imposed fiscal rules, which even the IFS are now calling dysfunctional.

“The Green Party is laser-focused on making our country affordable again, because we know it is inequality, not immigration, that is to blame for the state we are in. That is why we are again calling on the government to scrap their failing fiscal rules and double down on tackling the cost-of-living crisis, starting with scrapping the household benefit cap, bringing water into public ownership, and introducing rent controls.”

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Lay Members appointed to the NI Judicial Appointments Commission (NIJAC)

First Minister Michelle O'Neill and deputy First Minister Emma Little-Pengelly have appointed Mrs Deirdre Toner and Mr Mark Mitchell as Lay Members to the NI Judicial Appointments Commission (NIJAC).

DAERA Minister announces plans to strengthen the regulation of water pollution

Plans to strengthen the enforcement and regulation of water pollution have today been announced by the DAERA Minister Andrew Muir.

Sentencing Bill introduced to the Assembly

New legislation which will bring a raft of changes to sentencing in Northern Ireland has been introduced to the Assembly.