

<b>NOTICE OF MOTION</b>	<b>Date of Council Meeting:</b> 06/11/24
	<b>Mover:</b> Councillor A Carter
	<b>Seconder:</b> Councillor Tarmey
	<b>Title of Motion:</b> A bad start from the new Labour government

**That this Council notes that:**

1. The Labour Party won a majority in the 2024 general election to form the Government of the UK with a manifesto that included a pledge not to increase taxes for working people.
2. There was no manifesto commitment to the removal of universal winter fuel payments for pensioners.
3. Rotherham Labour Group proposed a motion in recent years condemning the removal of the £20 Universal Credit uplift, which was passed by the Council.
4. Inflation has recently returned to below the Bank of England target, and this has happened more rapidly than forecast earlier this year which provides the government with more fiscal headroom to support working people.

**That this Council believes that:**

1. Promises made in an election manifesto of a party who wins a parliamentary majority should not be broken.
2. Self-employed people, and employees of small and medium sized businesses are 'working people'.
3. Self-employed people may be liable for employee and employer national insurance contributions.
4. The private sector is an essential part of our economy and is key to economic growth, job creation, and revenue for the Treasury.
5. Increasing the tax burden for the self-employed and small and medium sized businesses risks fewer jobs, lower growth, and redundancies.
6. The Government should reinstate the Universal Credit uplift as the council resolved in recent years.

7. The borough's three MPs - John Healey, Sarah Champion and Jake Richards - were wrong to vote to remove universal winter fuel payments for pensioners.

**Therefore, this Council resolves to:**

1. Ask group leaders to write to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and the borough's three MPs, asking them to oppose hikes to tax and national insurance for the self-employed and small to medium sized businesses.
2. Express its regret that the borough's three MPs voted to remove universal winter fuel payments.
3. Ask group leaders to write the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the borough's three MPs to ask them to reinstate the Universal Credit uplift.