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# Exploring Challenges and Opportunities under the New Labour Government

July 2024



# What we will cover today



# Labour's first King's Speech

The King announced Labour's first legislative programme on 17<sup>th</sup> July, including **40 new Bills and legislative commitments:**



Employment Rights Bill



National Wealth Fund Bill



Great British Energy Bill



English Devolution Bill



Renters' Rights Bill



Crime and Policing Bill



Planning and Infrastructure Bill



Mental Health Bill



Pensions Schemes Bill



Tobacco and Vapes Bill



Armed Forces Commissioner Bill



Victims, Court and Public Protections Bills



Skills England Bill





# The Cabinet

2024



The Rt Hon  
**Sir Keir Starmer MP**  
Prime Minister



The Rt Hon  
**Angela Rayner MP**  
Deputy Prime Minister,  
Secretary of State for Housing,  
Communities and Local  
Government



The Rt Hon  
**Rachel Reeves MP**  
Chancellor of the Exchequer



The Rt Hon  
**David Lammy MP**  
Secretary of State for  
Foreign, Commonwealth and  
Development Affairs



The Rt Hon  
**Yvette Cooper MP**  
Secretary of State for  
the Home Department



The Rt Hon  
**John Healey MP**  
Secretary of State for  
Defence



The Rt Hon  
**Pat McFadden MP**  
Chancellor of the  
Duchy of Lancaster



The Rt Hon  
**Ed Miliband MP**  
Secretary of State for Energy Security and  
Net Zero



The Rt Hon  
**Wes Streeting MP**  
Secretary of State for  
Health and Social Care



The Rt Hon  
**Jonathan Reynolds MP**  
Secretary of State for Business and  
Trade



The Rt Hon  
**Anneliese Dodds MP**  
Minister for Women and Equalities



The Rt Hon  
**Liz Kendall MP**  
Secretary of State for  
Work and Pensions



The Rt Hon  
**Bridget Phillipson MP**  
Secretary of State for  
Education



The Rt Hon Dr  
**Steve Reed MP**  
Secretary of State for  
Environment, Food and Rural Affairs



The Rt Hon  
**Louise Haigh MP**  
Secretary of State for  
Transport



The Rt Hon  
**Lisa Nandy MP**  
Secretary of State for  
Culture, Media and Sport



The Rt Hon  
**Ian Murray MP**  
Secretary of State for  
Scotland



The Rt Hon  
**Jo Stevens MP**  
Secretary of State for  
Wales



The Rt Hon  
**Hilary Benn MP**  
Secretary of State for  
Northern Ireland



The Rt Hon  
**Lucy Powell MP**  
Lord President of the Council and  
Leader of the  
House of Commons



The Rt Hon  
**Baroness Smith**  
Leader of the  
House of Lords and Lord Privy Seal



The Rt Hon  
**Alan Campbell MP**  
Chief Whip



The Rt Hon  
**Peter Kyle MP**  
Secretary of State for Science,  
Innovation and Technology



The Hon  
**Shobana Mahmood MP**  
Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for  
Justice

## Also attending Cabinet



**Darren Jones MP**  
Chief Secretary to the Treasury



**Nick Thomas-Symonds MP**  
Paymaster General and  
Minister for the Constitution and  
European Relations



**James Timpson**  
Minister of State (Minister for Prisons,  
Parole and Probation)



The Rt Hon  
**Sir Patrick Vallance**  
Minister of State  
(Minister for Science)  
in the Cabinet Office

# Who's who

## Key Ministers (DWP, MoJ, DfE)



### Liz Kendall

Secretary of State for Work and Pensions

Former Shadow Employment Minister. Background and expertise in health and social care, working for various thinktanks, including The Kings Fund.



### Alison McGovern

Minister for Employment

Previously held a number of shadow roles, including Shadow Children and Childcare Minister, Shadow Employment Minister.



### Sir Stephen Timms

Minister for Social Security and Disability

Former Chair of the Work and Pensions Committee. Extensive experience in government and shadow cabinets, having served as Financial Secretary in former Labour governments.



### Wes Streeting

Secretary for Health and Social Care

Described formerly as a rising star of Labour. He has emphasised the importance of prevention and driving better health outcomes to get people back into work.



### James Timpson

Prisons Minister

Former Chair of Prison Reform Trust. He also founded the Employment Advisory Board network across the prison estate which links prisons with employers to improve the employment opportunities for ex-offenders upon release



### Baroness Sherlock

DWP Minister for the Lords

Former Chief Executive of the Refugee Council and served as Special Adviser to Chancellor Gordon Brown at the Treasury. In her economic work, she has placed special emphasis on welfare reform and issues such as child poverty.



### Bridget Phillipson

Secretary of State for Education

Described formerly as a rising star of Labour. Ms Phillipson has a background in local government and previously served as the Shadow Chief Secretary to the Treasury.



### Baroness Jacqui Smith

Education Minister

She served as a Government Minister for 10 years. She was previously an Education Minister under Sir Tony Blair. Under Gordon Brown, she was the first woman to be Home Secretary. Smith is likely to lead on Labour's skills reforms from the House of Lords.

# Influencing from the outside

**Labour Together** was initially created to reclaim the Labour Party from the hard left and has become integral to Keir Starmer's governance vision

**IPPR** is officially non-partisan, however its influence with Labour is long-standing and continues on their economic agenda and 'securonomics' approach



**The Tony Blair Institute** is a key frontbench influencer, with many of the Institute's positions echoed by Labour, particularly towards a more euro-centric approach to policymaking

**The Institute for Government** is Labour's go-to advisor on the practicalities of governing, and helped train members of the Shadow Cabinet as they prepare for Government



**Tony Blair himself** is increasingly influential as Starmer has increasingly turned to Blair as an unofficial source of advice

**GMB** is one of the three largest affiliates to the Labour Party, covering all nearly all industrial sectors, and while it still holds sway, Keir's operation are keen to show they can stand up to the unions



**Peter Mandelson** came back into the fold back in 2021, to advise Starmer on moving the party beyond Corbyn's leadership and broadening its electoral appeal

**The Future Governance Forum** is a new Starmerite think tank aiding the party's preparations for power, particularly on mission-led government and its purpose



**The Australian Labour Party** has advised its UK equivalent on campaign tactics, given advice from a decade in power, and helped shape policies such as welfare reform

# Labour Policies: What do we know so far?



# Employment



## **New National Jobs and Careers Service**

With a holistic integrated approach to tackle barriers to employment and boost the employment rate to 80%.



## **Greater devolution of employment support**

Local areas to have greater responsibility and resources to design a joined-up work, health and skills offering to help meet local needs.



## **Employment Rights Bill**

Labour's much anticipated bill seeks to strengthen workers rights with measures to ban exploitative zero hours contracts, fire and rehire practices and introduce key day one rights.



# Health



## Health as a driver of growth

An approach that recognises that health and economic prosperity are inextricably linked.



## Focus on prevention and long-term approach to health

Undertake an independent investigation into the state of the NHS and establish a long-term 10-year plan to reform the health service



## Greater access to community care

Trial Neighbourhood Health Centres to bring together mental health specialists, doctors, nurses, care workers and physios to relieve pressure on hospitals.



# Skills



## Apprenticeship levy reform

Broaden the existing levy into a 'Growth and Skills' Levy



## Establishment of Skills England

Support skills reform and bring together businesses, providers, unions, Mayoral Combined Authorities (MCAs) and national government



## Youth Guarantee

Ensure training, apprenticeships or work support for all young people to prevent early exclusion from the workplace



# Justice



## **Greater skills and employment support for prisoners**

Improve offenders' access to purposeful activity, such as learning, and ensure they create pre-release plans for those leaving custody.



## **A strategic review of probation governance**

Consider the benefits of devolved models, reflecting on success of linking probation with housing and health services in Greater Manchester



## **Greater mental health support for offenders**

Reform the Mental Health Act and ensure offenders with severe mental health problems are supported



# Devolution



## English Devolution Bill

Introduce a standardised devolution framework and greater powers for local leaders



## Council of the nations and regions

Strengthen relationships between the PM, heads of Devolved Governments and Combined Authority Mayors.



A photograph of Earth from space at night. The Earth's surface is visible, showing a dense network of city lights in yellow and orange, primarily concentrated in the lower right quadrant. The atmosphere is a thin, glowing blue layer. The background is a deep black space filled with numerous small, bright stars. The text "Thank you" is overlaid in white on the left side of the image.

**Thank you**