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Government must “carry the can” for student loans fiasco

Labour Ministers must be held accountable for the continuing student loans fiasco which has left a significant number of students from Keighley and Ilkley still awaiting their payments, Kris Hopkins, the Keighley and Ilkley Conservative Parliamentary Candidate, has said.

It is estimated that more than 100,000 students across the country remain without their full loan payments many weeks into the start of term.

And Cllr Hopkins said that primary responsibility for the delays ultimately lay with the Government itself.

“The Student Loans Company is not a private firm but a public body attached to the Government,” he commented.

“It is therefore the responsibility of Ministers to ensure that students receive their loans on time.

“However, this year, we are seeing many students – particularly new students and those from poorer households - being reduced to depending on hardship loans from their universities simply because this Labour Government has created an over-complicated system and then failed to tackle the inevitable problems that have followed.

“It is nothing short of a national scandal and the relevant Ministers must be forced to carry the can when the so-called independent review - which has been commissioned by the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills - reports before Christmas.

“I’ll not be holding my breath.”

ENDS