

23 April 2008

Brown's 10p tax rate U-turn is about self-preservation

Keighley and Ilkley Conservative Parliamentary Candidate Kris Hopkins has said Gordon Brown's decision to perform a U-turn over the abolition of the 10p tax rate was inspired by a desire to hold on to his job and avoid massive losses in next week local elections rather than a wish to help those in greatest need.

Kris commented:

"I am pleased that some of the 5.3 million people adversely affected by the abolition of the 10p rate will be compensated as a result of Gordon Brown's latest U-turn.

"But as ever with this Labour Government, the details are sketchy and the commitments are less than absolute.

"It is going to be several months at the very least before any of those now losing money will receive compensation of any kind.

"In the meantime, their incomes will continue to be hit – made all the worse by the huge increases in food and fuel prices.

"Gordon Brown's U-turn on this issue is motivated solely by his desire to hold on to his job and avoid meltdown in next week's local elections, rather than a desire to help those in greatest need in our society.

"His authority, which was already severely damaged, has been tarnished even further by this episode.

"His is a weak Prime Minister presiding over a Labour Government in crisis."

ENDS