



Newsletter

May 2025

✉ www.endsocialcaredisgrace.org X @EndSCDisgrace Bluesky: @endsocialcaredisgrace.bsky.social
endsocialcaredisgrace@gmail.com T. 07419295754 <https://www.facebook.com/EndSocialCareDisgrace>

More is revealed regarding the impact of the proposed disability benefit cuts

In a press release from Amnesty International last month Jen Clarke says that in the UK 'Lives are being ruined by a system that is consciously cruel – it erodes dignity by design'. The report notes the evidence delivers damning conclusions on how the system processes, punishes, harms and dehumanises people and fails to meet international legal obligations". With almost a quarter of people living in poverty, "when the government knowingly makes choices to make poverty worse, it is deliberately violating basic human rights. Yet successive UK governments have ignored the UN's pleas to take urgent action to fix this".

<https://www.amnesty.org.uk/press-releases/uk-consciously-cruel-uk-social-security-system-pushing-people-beyond-brink-new>

The Association of Directors of Adult Social Services (ADASS) notes that fewer PIP awards will lead to a reduction in the number of unwaged carers entitled to carer's allowance, or the carer's element of universal credit which may result in unwaged carers being unable to meet care and support needs, leading to more people being pushed into state funded care. 150,000 disabled carers receive both PIP and carers allowance.

In response to Freedom of Information Requests the DWP acknowledged that they estimate 3.2 million families will lose out under the plans in 2029/2030. Of those, 700,000 will be families already categorised as being in relative poverty.
<https://www.theguardian.com/society/2025/may/07/sability-benefit-cuts-to-hit-700000-families-already-in-poverty-dwp-forecasts-show>

Yet the Disability Policy Centre suggests that the proposed "reforms" will only deliver £100m of savings by 2030, taking into account an estimated £1.2bn additional costs to health and social care budgets, reduced spending from disabled households and costs of appeals.

<https://thedisabilitypolicycentre.org/our-analysis-on-welfare-reforms>

The fight against the cuts gets hot!

In Parliament opposition is growing, probably boosted by the local election results as Labour MPs clock that scrapping the winter fuel allowance and cutting disability benefits threaten their seats. On 7th May Richard Burgon (Labour Leeds) made a passionate speech to Parliament insisting the cuts are immoral and shameful and calling for them to be scrapped and 42 Labour MPs have signed a call to Starmer to abandon the plan.

See the list here and lobby missing Labour MPs

Diane Abbott, Paula Barker, Lee Barron, Lorraine Beavers, Apsana Begum, Olivia Blake, Richard Burgon, Dawn Butler, Ian Byrne, Stella Creasey, Neil Duncan-Jordan, Cat Eccles, Barry Gardiner, Mary Glendon, Sarah Hall, Chris Hinchcliff, Imran Hussain, Terry Jermy, Kim Johnson, Mary Kelly Foy, Peter Lamb, Ian Lavery, Brian Leishman, Emma Lewell, Rebecca Long-Bailey, Rachael Maskell, Andy McDonald, John McDonnell, Abtisam Mohamed, Grahame Morris, Charlotte Nichols, Simon Opher, Kate Osborne, Richard Quigley, Andrew Ranger, Bell Ribeiro-Addy, Zarah Sultana, Jon Trickett, Chris Webb, Nadia Whittome, Steve Witherden

<https://leftfootforward.org/2025/05/these-are-the-42-labour-mps-who-have-called-for-starmer-to-abandon-disability-benefit-cuts/>



DPAC and others in the Coalition Against Benefit Cuts are calling on people to lobby their MPs in Parliament on Wed. 21st May between 12 and 4pm. **Join them if you can.**

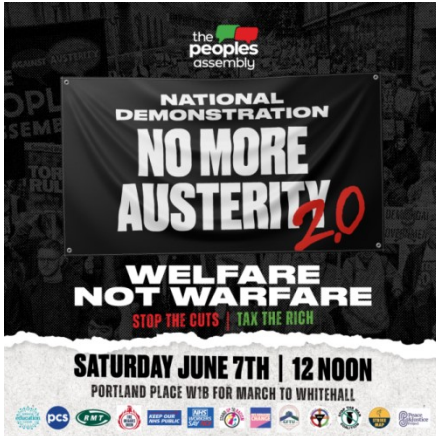
For more details see:

<https://dpac.uk.net/2025/04/mass-lobby-against-benefit-cuts-event/>



In Leeds, home of Chancellor Rachael Reeves, Ellen Clifford from DPAC and Richard Burgon addressed Leeds TUC May Day march

On June 7th in central London many organisations and trade unions will be coming together to raise a



might roar against the Austerity Policies of this Government. Assemble in Portland Place just north of Oxford St at 12 noon

Meanwhile the cross-party Select Committee on Social Care has found that 3.5 million people are not getting the support/ care they need and warned that attempts to reform adult social care are doomed to fail unless ministers accept major investment is needed to overhaul a “broken” system that has been failing millions of people.

<https://www.theguardian.com/society/2025/may/05/mps-warn-social-care-needs-substantial-investment-to-fix-broken-system>

And people with mental health difficulties continue to be neglected

John Lister reported in The Lowdown that the largest share of the costs stemming from mental ill health is borne by people living with mental health difficulties and their families: a total of £175bn! And that the latest NHS data analysed by ‘Rethink Mental Illness’ show people are eight times more likely to wait over 18 months for mental health treatment than physical health treatment.

<https://lowdownnhs.info/mental-health/mental-health-services-breaking-down-under-pressure/>



NEXT UP FOR ESCAD

We will be holding a public meeting on family/ unpaid carers on Thursday 12th June 1.30 – 3pm in Carers Week. Please register here and share <https://us02web.zoom.us/join/9tJ6t2Vq3aT5S2qCBH0SZx7PtA>



Join our Public Zoom Meeting Thursday 12th June 1.30 – 3pm

CARERS FIGHT BACK

In Carers Week we are demanding that the Government scrap the proposed cruel benefit cuts, end the harassment and prosecution of carers regarding inadvertent “overpayments” and guarantee a decent income for carers and disabled people, not poverty and exclusion!

Hear from

Paul Ridley full time carer for his adult disabled children
Katy Styles full time carer and founder of grass roots, carers led ‘We Care Campaign’
An MP TBC
Jo Walton Chair of ESCAD’s Carers Group and share your thoughts and ideas

REGISTER IN ADVANCE HERE:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/9tJ6t2Vq3aT5S2qCBH0SZx7PtA>

www.endsocialcaredisgrace.org

X @EndSCDisgrace Bluesky: @endsocialcaredisgrace.bsky.social
✉ endsocialcaredisgrace@gmail.com T. 07419295754
<https://www.facebook.com/EndSocialCareDisgrace>

- ❖ We are getting out and about to Trade Union Conferences to try to get our messages across
- ❖ Brian Fisher has just had an article about ESCAD policy published in Left Foot Forward. See <https://leftfootforward.org/2025/05/heres-how-we-could-fix-social-care-and-support/>
- ❖ In July we are planning a workshop developing our ideas around de-privatising social care and developing non-profit, community based support systems.
- ❖ On October 25th we are planning to hold a national hybrid Conference at Central Hall in Manchester 1- 5pm with lunch from 12 noon.
- ❖ We continue to engage with MPs and local Councillors who want to end social care disgrace and support each other in fighting the system. If you would like to come along to our open, working group meetings on zoom, Email endsocialcaredisgrace@gmail.com or contact 07419 295754. We are our supporters and our supporters are us!

