

## Unemployment increases to 2.51 million under the Tories

Published: January 14, 2026, 9:48 pm

---

[BBC News - UK unemployment increases to 2.51 million.](#)

Sorry couldn't resist it :-)

But more seriously - this will be a story I predict will be repeated again, and again, and again.

If £80 billion is carved out of government spending expect unemployment of more than 4 million.

And no fall in government debt as a consequence.

This is the logical consequence of the policies this new government is going to offer.

And the Lib Dems have been mad enough to let David Laws - one of their MPs - be Chief Secretary to the Treasury and hatchet man in chief.

The consequences will stick.