

## Labour's not got enough credit for offering this 5 Bill...

Published: January 14, 2026, 5:09 pm

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As I occasionally point out, I'm not a member of the Labour party - or any other party come to that. However, sometime something does not get the publicity it deserves and this from the Labour Party did not:

*Labour's "Alternative Queens' Speech" (as the pressure group Progress have been pushing for in recent weeks) features five proposed bills, which are:*

- A Fair Deal on tax. Alongside implementing Labour's five point plan for jobs and growth, Labour's Finance Bill would reverse tax cuts for people earning over £150,000 a year. We would use that money to help pensioners on fixed incomes hit by the "granny tax" and we would restore cuts in tax credits which have hit families.*
- A Fair Deal on Energy. Labour's Energy Bill would break up the dominance of the Big Six power companies and require them by law to offer 4 million elderly people the lowest rate available.*
- A Fair Deal on Transport. Labour's Transport Bill would stop train operators raising fares by more than one per cent above inflation, stop them exploiting commuters with unadvertised rates and give local authorities more control over bus firms.*
- A Fair Deal for Consumers. Labour's Consumer Bill would give new powers to the Financial Conduct Authority and Competition and Markets Authority to stop rip-off surcharges by banks, low-cost airlines and pension firms.*
- A Fair Deal on Jobs. Labour's Jobs Bill would ensure some of the money raised from a tax on bank bonuses is used to provide real jobs, with real wages and responsibilities, to more than 100,000 young people aged 18 — 24.*

I'd want more, including much more on investment, the NHS and renewables, but this is a real alternative strategy. I welcome it.