

The abuse of power is profoundly unappealing. It would...

Published: January 16, 2026, 3:17 am

Angela Rayner has made it clear she wants Diane Abbott back in the Labour fold, with the whip restored.

So has Ed Balls. I doubt he would have said this without talking to Yvette Cooper, his wife.

The mood on the BBC's Question Time last night was very supportive of Abbott.

Keir Starmer is very clearly letting it be known he does not give a damn, or stories of the sort in [The Guardian today](#) saying there is no link between the Hester comments and the Whip being restored would not be possible. This stuff is based on deliberately placed comments.

So, Starmer is only too happy to exploit Tory abuse of Diane Abbott.

At the same time he is quite unwilling to say whether she may be a candidate in the general election that could still be little more than weeks away.

If that is not intimidation and abuse by Starmer I do not know what else it might be described as.

Diane Abbott is a flawed human being. So are we all. So too is Keir Starmer. But he wants to play God with the power that he has. People like that are very dangerous. The abuse of power is profoundly unappealing. It would seem that Starmer enjoys it.