

## Labour should be capping rent increases

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I have published this video this morning. In it, I argue that millions of people living in private rented accommodation are still facing well over inflation-rate rent increases when increases in wages are falling dramatically as most inflation does as well. This penalises those living in that accommodation in a grossly unfair way. Labour could cap rent rises so they must be less than the rate of inflation to control this. It's time it did.

<https://youtu.be/uzJtqcaeMIA?si=cJp0qH4IatioW-tK>

The audio version of this video is here:

[https://www.podbean.com/player-v2/?i=j2np2-1675792-pb&from=pb6admin&share=1&download=1&rtl=0&font=Arial&skin=8bbb4e&font-color=&logo\\_link=episode\\_page&btn-skin=1b1b1b](https://www.podbean.com/player-v2/?i=j2np2-1675792-pb&from=pb6admin&share=1&download=1&rtl=0&font=Arial&skin=8bbb4e&font-color=&logo_link=episode_page&btn-skin=1b1b1b)

The transcript is:

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*Labour likes to claim there is no money left, and therefore, its scope for action, now it's in government, is very restricted.*

*I don't agree. I am producing a whole series of videos explaining how Labour could change the well-being of millions of people in the UK simply by changing the laws that govern us in ways that will impose very little cost on it, but which will deliver major benefit for the UK.*

*Let me provide another example. There are very large numbers of people in the UK, most especially younger people, who live in rented accommodation. And the rents on that accommodation have risen dramatically in recent years, largely as a result of the*

*increase in interest rates imposed on this country by the Bank of England.*

*At present, rents are rising by an average of at least 7 per cent a year, but we know that inflation is heading back to between 2 and 3 per cent, and wage increases are therefore going to fall back to that sort of level as well in due course.*

*That means rents as a proportion of the net income after tax of very many people in the UK are going to rise at rates that they will find very difficult to pay because those who live in rented accommodation tend to be amongst the lower paid.*

*This is deeply unfair. Labour could do something about this. It could set a cap on rent increases. An annual rate of increase that was less than the current rate of inflation would be what is required. And if at the same time, and this will be the subject of another video, Labour stopped no fault evictions of those who are in private rented accommodation, then it would not be possible for landlords to evict people so easily to get round this regulation in that way.*

*We need to protect people who live in rented accommodation. It is unfair that they are bearing the brunt of the anti-inflation policy of the Bank of England to no real effect at all with regard to the rate of inflation that we're actually suffering, enjoying, or whichever way you look at it. The fact is, Labour should be stopping these penal rent rises.*

*Come on Labour, it's within your power to make this change for large numbers of people in the UK. Please do it now.*