Speech

A Plan for Jobs speech

A Plan for Jobs 2020 speech as delivered by Chancellor Rishi Sunak.

Published 9 July 2020
From: HM Treasury and The Rt Hon Rishi Sunak MP

Delivered on: **9 July 2020 (Presented of the speech, exactly as it was delivered)**

Mr Speaker,

I stand here in Parliament, saying I knew people were worried.

And I know they're worried still.

We have been decisive action to protect our economy.

But people are anxious about losing their job, about unemployment rising.

We're not just going to accept this.

People want to know we will do all we can to give everyone the opportunity of good and secure work.

People want to know that although hardship lies ahead, no one will be left behind.

So, today, we act, with a Plan for Jobs.

Our plan has a clear goal. to protect, support and create jobs.

It will give businesses the confidence to retain and hire.

To create jobs in every part of our country.

To give young people a better start.

To give people everywhere the opportunity of a fresh start.

Where problems emerge, we will confront them.

Where support is justified, we will provide it.

Where challenges arise, we will overcome them.

We entered this crisis unprecedentedly strong and we continue in this spirit, driven always by the simple desire to do what is right.

Mr Speaker,

Before I turn to our Plan for Jobs, let me first outline the nature of the challenge.

Our economic response to coronavirus is moving through three phases.

In the first phase, beginning in March, the government intervened swiftly and decisively to protect lives and businesses to close, halting the spread of the disease.

We put in place one of the largest and most comprehensive economic responses in the world.

Our £350 billion plan protects people's jobs, incomes and businesses:

- we supported more than 11 million people and jobs through the job retention and self-employment scheme, alongside billions of pounds for businesses and charities
- we supported over a million businesses to protect jobs, through low cost, tax deferrals, direct cash grants, and even a million pounds through our business loans
- and we supported public services, with new funding for the NHS, schools, public transport and local authorities

In total, we have now provided £190 billion to support public services since this crisis began.

Analysis I'm publishing today shows our interventions significantly protected people's incomes, with the least well off in society supported the most.

And this crisis has highlighted the special bond which holds our country together.

Millions of people in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland have been protected by the UK government's economic interventions – and they will be supported by today's Plan for Jobs.

No nationalist can ignore the unbreakable truth: this help has only been possible because we are a United Kingdom.

Mr Speaker,

Four months on, as we carefully reopen our economy, we are entering the second phase of our economic response.

Despite the extraordinary support we've already provided, we have profound economic challenges.

- world economic activity has slowed, with the IMF expecting the deepest global recession since it began record
- household consumption – the biggest component of our economy – has fallen by a quarter
- businesses have stopped trading and stepped limits
- latest together. in just two months our economy contracted by 20%. the same amount it grew in the previous eighteen years.

And the independent Office for Budget Responsibility forecast that if we don't prepare for significant job losses – the most significant we have not faced.

I want every person in this House and in the country to know that I will never accept unemployment as an unavoidable outcome

Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Coronavirus (COVID-19): guidance and support

The UK has left the EU

Transition period: get ready for 2021

Services and information

Benefits

Births, deaths, marriages and care

Business and self-employed

Childcare and parenting

Citizenship and living in the UK

Crime, justice and the law

Disabled people

Driving and transport

Education and learning

Employing people

Environment and countryside

Housing and local services

Money and tax

Passports, travel and living abroad

Visas and immigration

Working, jobs and pensions

Departments and policy

How government works

Departments

Worldwide

Services

Guidance and regulation

News and communications

Research and statistics

Policy papers and consultations

Transparency and freedom of information releases

OGL All content is available under the Open Government Licence v3.0, except where otherwise stated

© Crown copyright