

Government lose Bedroom Tax challenge decision

[Leigh Day](#) (click on name)



Smiffy! I need a word in your shell like me old son... you were born fucking hopeless, and you'll die fucking hopeless... You're a parasite, you're a thief, you're pointless and no body likes you. Fuck off.

The Government fails in its attempt to prevent legal action against its controversial Bedroom Tax



27 March 2013

The Government has failed in its attempt to prevent legal action against its controversial Bedroom Tax, after a judicial review of the decision was granted permission to proceed in the High Court, lawyers Leigh Day have announced.

A Judicial Review of the Government's controversial decision to deny housing benefit to people who have more than one bedroom if they are single or a couple will now be heard in early May.

Ugo Hayter from Leigh Day, who is representing a number of disabled clients challenging the legislation, said: "This is an excellent result and the first step in over ruling what we believe is an unfair piece of legislation which has a disproportionate negative consequences on disabled people and is therefore discriminatory.

"We urge the Government to think again and not to punish the most vulnerable for what are negligible savings, the Court has ordered an urgent hearing at the beginning of May, we hope that this will mean that the terrible anxiety our clients and many others are currently facing will be shortlived."

Law Firm Leigh Day are taking legal action on behalf of two clients who are challenging the Government's proposed 'bedroom tax'.

They claim that new housing benefit regulations, due to come into force on 1 April 2013, are discriminatory, as they will have a far greater 'devastating' impact on disabled people than on non-disabled recipients of the benefit.

The law firm are challenging new regulation B13 introduced into the Housing Benefit Regulations 2006, which will see a single person or a couple with no children having their housing benefit reduced by 14% where they occupy a two bedroom home and by 25% if they occupy a home with three or more

bedrooms.

Leigh Day are arguing this will have serious impacts on disabled housing benefit claimants including their client Jacqueline Carmichael who lives with her husband in a two bedroom housing association flat. □ □ Mrs Carmichael has spina bifida and is severely disabled.

Mr Carmichael provides her with care throughout the day and night. Mrs Carmichael's condition means that she has to sleep in a hospital bed with an electronic pressure mattress and has to sleep in a fixed position.

Mr Carmichael cannot sleep in this bed with her as it is not large enough for two people and his movements at night could cause harm. There is not enough space in her bedroom for a second bed so Mr Carmichael sleeps in a second bedroom.

Mr and Mrs Carmichael cannot afford to make up the 14% benefit reduction, which will be imposed, from 1 April 2013.

Mr Rourke is a widower. He is disabled and uses a wheelchair. He is a council tenant and lives in a three-bedroom bungalow.

His stepdaughter is also disabled with a rare form of muscular dystrophy, a degenerative condition that attacks the lungs, heart and muscles.

She is currently a university student in her first year of a two-year web design degree. She lives in halls of residence during term time but returns home for the full summer vacation, at holiday periods and at weekends when she can.

The third 'bedroom', as defined by the Government, in Mr Rourke's home is a box room measuring 8 x 9 feet which he requires to store his equipment including a hoist for lifting him, his power chair and his shower seat.

Mr Rourke has enquired in the social rented sector about the availability of two bedroom properties, which are suitable for

wheelchair use, and there are none.

Mr Rourke cannot afford to make up the 14% benefit reduction, which will be imposed, from 1 April 2013.

Charismatic? Not Our Man

Sunday Express. 6th October 2002

FOLLOWING days of devastating polls showing Iain Duncan Smith's popularity plummeting, even his shadow cabinet has given up pretending he is a vote winner. When quizzed about the importance of charisma in a leader, Shadow Home Secretary Oliver Letwin suggested the public were "fed up with charisma". He then helpfully pointed out "what you see is what you get with IDS

One in Three voters say Hague was better Leader

ONE in three voters thinks Iain Duncan Smith is a worse Tory leader than William Hague, a new poll reveals today.

More than half of voters are dissatisfied with the Conservative leadership and say the party is a less effective opposition than the Lib Dems, according to the YouGov survey for ITV1's Jonathan Dimbleby programme.

Only 15 per cent of those surveyed thought Mr Duncan Smith was a better leader than Mr Hague, with 41 per cent saying his performance is the same and 34 per cent saying it is worse.

Four out of 10 believe the Lib Dems are the most effective opposition to Labour, with only 19 per cent saying it was the Conservatives.

The survey found that 30 per cent of voters were quite

dissatisfied with Mr Duncan Smith's performance as leader, with a further 24 per cent very dissatisfied and only 29 per cent satisfied.

Among Tory voters, 47 per cent were quite or very dissatisfied, and 47 per cent were quite or very satisfied, giving Mr Duncan Smith a net satisfaction rating among Tory voters of Zero.