

THE UK WOMEN'S BUDGET GROUP

JANET VEITCH UK WOMEN'S
BUDGET GROUP JUNE 2018

HISTORY

Started in 1989

A network of leading feminist economists,
researchers, policy experts and campaigners

Committed to achieving a more gender equal future

OUR OBJECTIVES

We put forward economic policies for a more gender equal future

We build the capacity of women and women's groups to participate in economic debate

We scrutinise government economic policy from a gender perspective

PROMOTING GENDER RESPONSIVE BUDGETING

Women parliamentarians: briefing, analysis

**Government and officials: influencing
policy, training**

Media/ social media: raising awareness

Women's organisations: building capacity

RESOURCES

Feminist economists

Feminist activists

Parliamentary allies

Femocrats

Women journalists

ACHIEVEMENTS

Purse to wallet

Judicial review challenge to budget

Annual gender analysis of budget

Profile in the media, Parliament

Capacity building projects



BRIEFING PAPER

Number SN06758, 18 December 2017

Estimating the gender impact of tax and benefits changes

By Richard Keen &
Richard Cracknell

Contents:

1. Background: the Equalities Act 2010
2. Labour Party figures
3. Analysis from the Equality and Human Rights Commission
4. Alternative studies



PURSE TO WALLET



Changes in taxes and benefits have a disproportionate impact on women

Under the Equality Act 2010 government must have “due regard” to the effects of its policies on sex inequality.

Judicial review June 2010 Budget because it did not include an equalities impact assessment.

The Government argued it was not possible to produce a gender impact assessment of the budget as a whole.

The court confirmed:

-budgets are covered by equality law and

-Government must improve data collection on the impact of taxation and spending policies on women and men.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Annual gender analysis of budget

- meetings before budget is developed**
- analysis as budget is announced**
- follow up commentary**

ACHIEVEMENTS

Capacity building projects

- training women living in poverty**
- understanding budgets, policy levers**
- apply gender budgeting locally**

MAKING YOUR VOICE HEARD — A TOOLKIT FOR LOCAL CAMPAIGNING



toolkit to campaign and lobby locally

Voices of Experience project

workshops where women living in poverty learn more about the policymaking process.

campaigning ideas generated by the women involved as examples and case studies

TOOLS

Economic modelling capacity

Law:

- Public Sector Equality Duty**
- Freedom of Information Act**
- Judicial Review**

INTERSECTING INEQUALITIES: THE IMPACT OF AUSTERITY ON BME WOMEN

Tax and benefit changes and lost services 2010-2020

Poorest families will lose the most - average drop in living standards of 17%

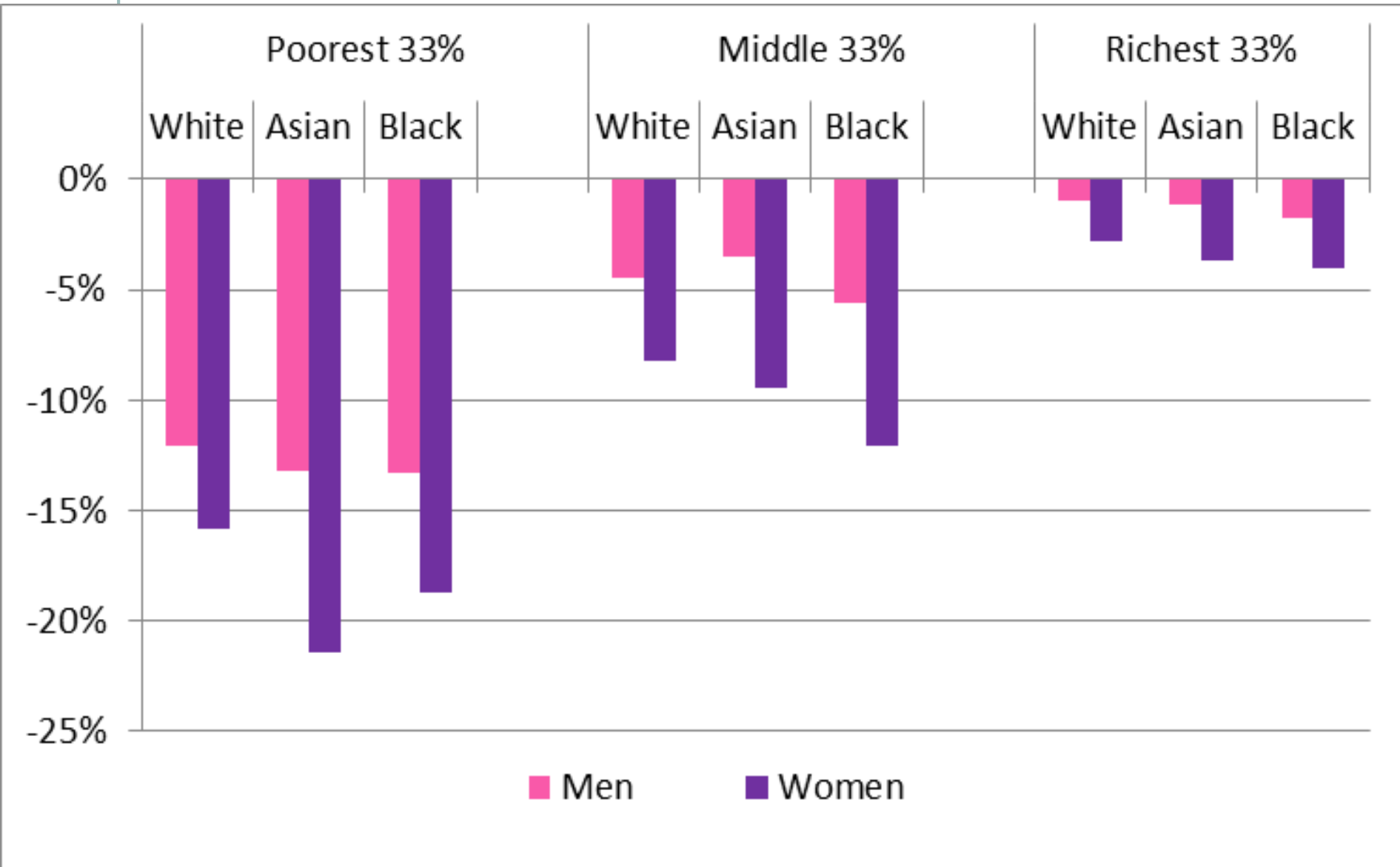
Black & Asian households

- the lowest fifth of incomes

- the biggest drop of 19.2% and 20.1%

Lone mothers (92% of lone parents) drop of 18%

2010-21 CUMULATIVE INDIVIDUAL IMPACT OF CHANGES IN TAXES/BENEFITS (% OF NET INDIVIDUAL INCOME PER ANNUM BY APRIL 2021) BY HOUSEHOLD INCOME, GENDER & ETHNICITY

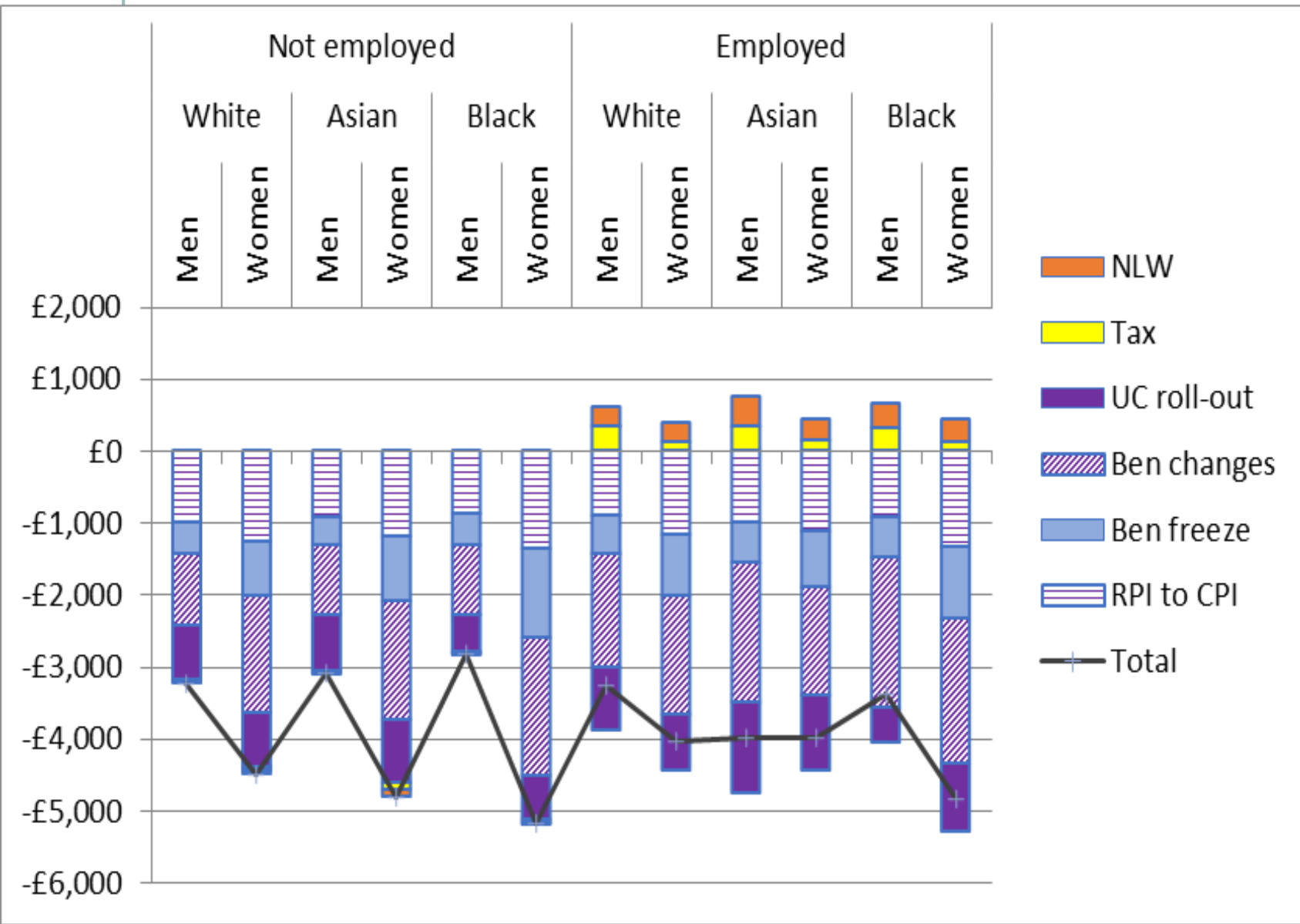


Cuts regressive – hit poor hardest

Women hit harder in every income group in cash terms as % of income

BME women hardest hit

CONTRIBUTION OF DIFFERENT BENEFIT AND TAX CHANGES SINCE 2010 TO THE CUMULATIVE IMPACT ON NET INCOME BY APRIL 2022, BY GENDER, ETHNICITY AND EMPLOYMENT STATUS – UC RECIPIENTS



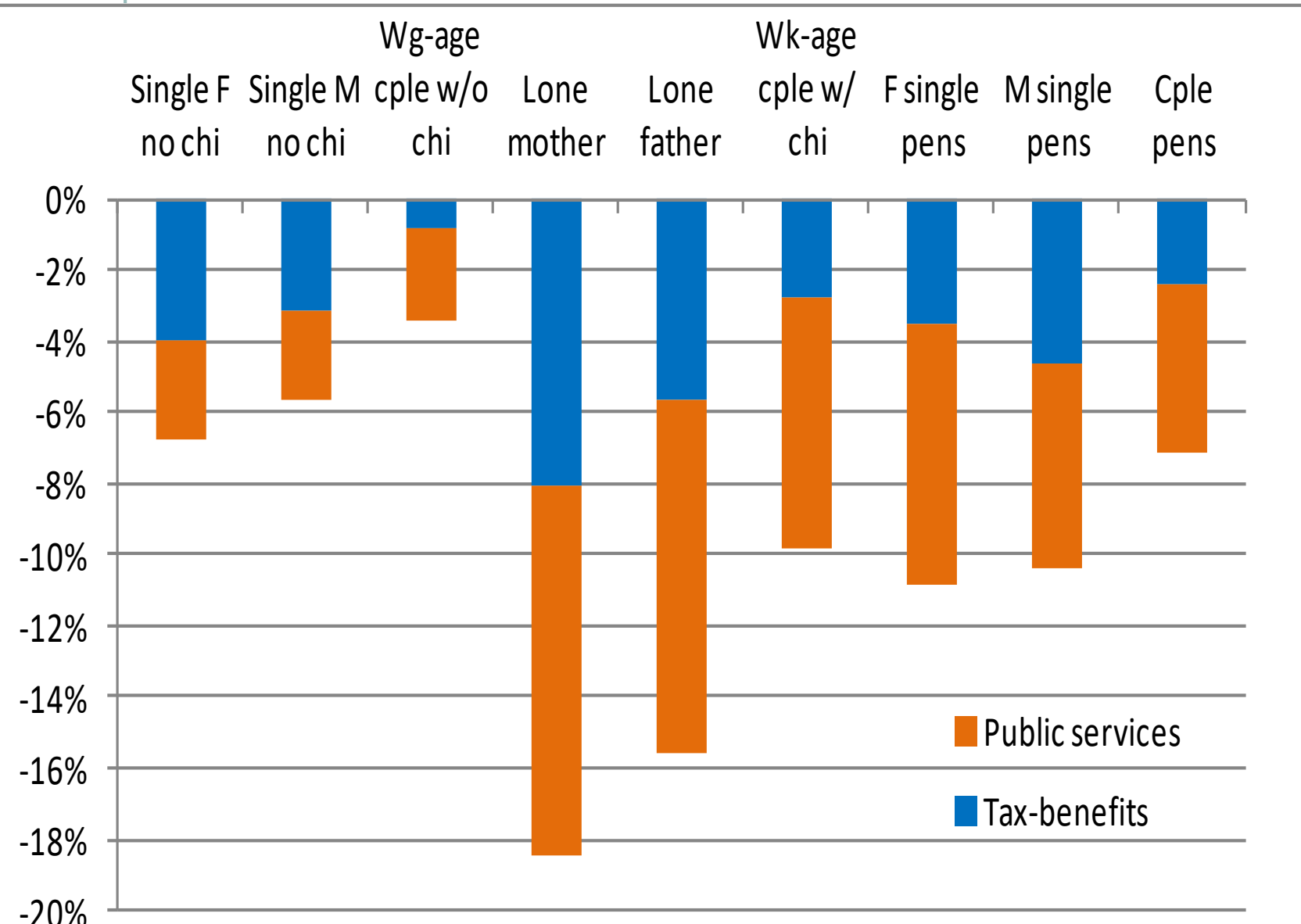
Increase in NLW/PTA does not compensate for cuts to social security

Employed women lose over 10 times as much as they gain (men 6 times)

Loss of £5000 a year for Black women not in employment (28% of their net income; 32% for their Asian counterparts)

Employed black and Asian women lose 20% of their net individual income

CUMULATIVE REAL-TERM CHANGE IN TAXES, CASH BENEFITS, VALUE OF PUBLIC SERVICES BY GENDERED HOUSEHOLD TYPE (% OF LIVING STANDARDS, 2010-20)



Service cuts bigger than tax-benefit changes

Single female-headed households hit harder

Lone mothers lose 20% of living standards (disposable income + value of service)

63% of cuts borne by single female pensioners are from social care

PUBLIC SERVICES IN CRISIS

women are greater users and providers of public services, and are more likely to increase their unpaid work to replace for any loss in these.

25% fewer people receiving state funded adult social care services

2 million with unmet care needs

1,240 fewer children's centres than in 2010

Childcare insufficient/ inadequate quality despite additional spending

155 women and 103 children a day on average are turned away from refuges

NHS funding gap still £12bn in 2020/21 despite conservative pledges

More nurses (88% women) leaving the profession than coming in

Women more likely to suffer from mental health issues than men while funding was cut despite additional announcements of support

£54BN PER YEAR OF TAX CUTS BY APRIL 2021

£9bn from fuel duty freeze

£13bn from corporation tax rates cuts

£22bn from raising income tax and NICs thresholds

£10bn from savings tax reliefs

Even worse when measured against essential items whose prices have gone up faster than general inflation (food, non-alcoholic drink, utilities)

BOOST PRODUCTIVITY VIA SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Necessary to counter potential negative economic impact of **Brexit** on **GDP**
(between 2% and 10% lower)

Investing in social infrastructure (providing education, health, social and child care) is often neglected or dismissed but it is building **long-term public benefits**

Short-term benefits too:

- public services
- employment
- Tax revenue from increased employment and consumption

Investment of 2% of GDP in care industries generates **twice as many jobs** as investment in construction

Investment in free universal childcare generates between 1.5m and **1.8m net increase in full-time employment** / and **90% self-funded**

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