

Disabled people and the minimum wage

Lord Freud's comment, in October 2014, that some disabled people are "*not worth*" the minimum wage [ignited a row](#) in prime minister's question time. All the main political parties roundly rejected the idea of calling into question the value of disabled people in the work place. There seemed to be a growing perception in the media that Lord Freud was undermining the worth of disabled people generally.

He was, in fact, attempting to address the needs of a small minority who find it particularly difficult to get paid work at all. He was answering a question from David Scott, the father of a severely disabled daughter, Moria. Mr Scott has [spoken out](#) in support of Lord Freud since this row erupted.

Several parents phoned in to Any Answers, on Radio 4 the following Saturday. They said that their son or daughter was unable contribute much in the world of work, but they would really like them to have the opportunity to get into the workplace and engage in some meaningful activity. They were right behind Lord Freud in his desire to open up new opportunities.

Lord Freud has offered a "*full and unreserved*" apology for his comments.