Interview / recorded statement to BBC Sheffield

Initial recorded interview on Thursday evening, followed by live studio conversation Friday morning.

1 It is beyond comprehension that a labour council would attack the poorest and most vulnerable, first by charging them council tax, then by imposing bedroom tax.

2 Bashing the benefits of the poorest has become politically popular, and labour are trying to out-nasty the nasty party.

3 Not since Hitler has a section of the community been scapegoated and demonised, and this labour council and this government are trying to do what Hitler couldn’t.

4 Those on benefits receive the minimum that the law says they need to live, so where is the justice, legality and fairness of taking away their money.

5 Given the choice, a single mother has the stark choice of either food on their child’s plate or paying this tax. It is a no-brainer. Taken to the extreme, this could mean the children taken into care and the mother imprisoned – such is the obscenity of this labour council and tory government.

6 The council tries to spin with offers to help, but the bottom line remains the same – pay up or pay the consequences.

7 Tomorrow’s ( Friday ) action is but one small step to inform this callous and uncaring council that it has gone too far, it has betrayed those who placed their trust in labour, and they will be reminded next May.

8 The council has claimed that there is a hardship fund. However, it is not fairly allocated, asks irrelevant questions, is wholly inadequate, and expects those on DLA to use their DLA money.

9 I am martin brighton, an independent volunteer who tries to help others.