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Parkinson's Disease:

Access to high-quality and timely NHS treatment, social care support, and financial assistance to help people maintain their independence, is vital for all people living with Parkinson's.

The Government said it is committed to addressing NHS backlogs. But waiting lists have risen to record levels: nearly one in seven people are now waiting for treatment, more than ever before. And the root cause of this crisis is the failure to provide the NHS with the doctors and nurses it needs to treat patients on time - our NHS is short of over 112,000 staff. Despite repeated promises to fix social care, the Chancellor delayed reforms for two years and instead asked councils to increase taxes on working people to plug funding gaps.

The long-awaited NHS workforce plan mirrors commitments I have been calling for. But ministers have not set out how the measures will be paid for, whether through higher taxes or higher borrowing. I supported a workforce plan that was, in contrast, fully funded, paid for by ending the non-domiciliary tax regime.

In my view, we must build an NHS fit for the future - providing it with the staff, technology, resources, and reform it needs - to improve Parkinson's care, support clinical trials, and ensure all patients get the treatment they need.

For social care, I support a long-term plan of reform that will eventually lead to a world-class National Care Service that makes people as proud as the NHS does: transforming access and making sure everyone with Parkinson's who needs care and support can get it when and where they need it. This must start with improving standards in the current system as well as delivering better pay, terms and conditions for care workers.

More widely, I agree with constituents that the Government must do more to address the cost-of-living crisis, which particularly impacts people with long-term conditions who rely on financial support to stay independent.

We need to move beyond sticking plaster solutions and make it a national mission to secure for Britain the highest sustained growth in the G7, with a proper economic plan to bring down bills and improve living standards.

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