



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

July 2018.

Dear Constituent,

A Response to the Long-Term Funding of the NHS Campaign

How to fund the NHS in the long-term is one of the most pressing and potent political issues. Demand for the NHS only continues to rise, and as the population ages, there are a growing number of widespread chronic conditions which will be increasingly expensive and challenging to address, without a credible and effective plan to fund the NHS and social care.

As I am sure you are aware, the Prime Minister recently announced the Government's intention to provide the NHS with an additional £20.5 billion by 2023/24. This new investment is extremely welcome, and I hope you agree it demonstrates the Government's commitment to properly funding our NHS and public services. Here in Scotland, healthcare is a devolved issue, and so responsibility for the NHS in Scotland rests with the Scottish Government in Holyrood.

The best way to build an NHS fit for the future is not to raise taxes, but to make common-sense reforms that ensure that the NHS delivers quality care and value for taxpayers' money. My Scottish Conservative colleagues in Holyrood have set out a fifteen-point plan for smarter, clearer structures, better financial planning, and boosting staff morale.

Alongside this, the NHS is expected to come up with a ten-year plan to demonstrate how it will continue to improve patient care, offer world-class services, and increase productivity, which is so important in a taxpayer funded healthcare system.

While the details of how this funding will be provided will be unveiled by the Chancellor, I hope I can assure you that my ministerial colleagues are working to provide a solution which provides the NHS with the investment it needs, and is financially sustainable in the long run. It is essential that our public services are supported by a strong and healthy economy, and I have every faith that the Government will foster the growth and economic dynamism the NHS needs to thrive.

I am proud of the Government's recent record on the NHS. Despite difficult financial circumstances, NHS investment has increased every year since 2010, and I believe this new investment will help to secure the NHS for the future.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Alister Jack'.

Alister Jack DL MP
Dumfries and Galloway constituency.