



**HOUSE OF COMMONS**

LONDON SW1A 0AA

21<sup>st</sup> September 2023

*Dear Contributes,*

**RE: DIABETES**

Thank you for your recent correspondence in respect of support and treatment for people with diabetes. I have read your comments with interest.

First, thank you for your kind invitation to attend Diabetes UK's stand at the Conservative Party Conference. I shall certainly do my best to stop by, but in any event, please rest assured that I will continue to follow the issues raised closely.

Diabetes is a leading cause of premature mortality, doubling an individual's risk of cardiovascular disease. It costs over £10 billion every year to manage and results in over 22,000 additional deaths each year. That is why I believe it is important that high quality diabetes care is available.

A total of £5 million was provided in 2021/22 in a national recovery fund to support the recovery of routine diabetes care through innovative projects. The programme approved 28 projects with delivery in 2022/23. A further £75 million of funding is also being allocated between 2020/21 and 2023/24 for the treatment and care of people living with diabetes. NHS England continues to work to identify and develop plans to address gaps in the provision of services.

The Government also supports work to prevent the development of diabetes. The NHS Diabetes Prevention Programme operates to identify people who are at high risk of developing type 2 diabetes and refers them on to a nine-month, evidence-based lifestyle change programme. Latest figures, published in February 2023, shows a 20 percent reduction in risk for those who are referred to the programme, compared to those who are not.

Finally, the Government has announced its intention to develop and publish a *Major Conditions Strategy*. The strategy will set out a strong and coherent policy agenda that sets out a shift to integrated, whole-person care. Interventions set out in the strategy will aim to alleviate pressure on the health system, as well as support the Government's objective to increase healthy life expectancy and reduce ill-health related labour market inactivity. Diabetes is one of the six major conditions included in the strategy.

On the 17th May, the Government launched its call for evidence for the *Major Conditions Strategy* which ran until the 27th June. The Government is analysing the responses and will respond shortly.



Once again, thank you for having taken the time to contact me and if I can ever be of any further assistance to you then please do not hesitate to contact me again.

*With best wishes,*

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'TP' with a flourish underneath.

**TOM PURSGLOVE MP  
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT  
CORBY & EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE**