



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

October 2019

Dear Constituent,

Thank you for contacting me about diabetes.

Please allow me to assure you that ensuring the best possible care for all people with diabetes is available to patients as well as tackling the causes of diabetes as far as possible remain key priorities for the Government.

Diabetes is a leading cause of premature mortality. With over 22,000 additional deaths each year, it doubles an individual's risk of cardiovascular disease and costs over £10 billion every year to manage.

Prevention is crucial to tackling type 2 diabetes, so I am delighted that prevention is at the heart of the NHS Long Term Plan (LTP), launched earlier this year. One of the key commitments in the LTP is to double, to 200,000 people per year, the scale of the NHS Diabetes Prevention Programme which supports those identified as high risk of type 2 diabetes to reduce their risk.

Further, medical research has shown that some people with type 2 diabetes can achieve remission through adoption of low calorie diets and is a non-invasive treatment allowing people with type 2 diabetes to tackle their diabetes as part of leading healthier lives. I warmly welcome the inclusion in the LTP pioneering plans to test an NHS programme of low calorie diets for overweight people with type 2 diabetes.

There is also more work to be done to improve the treatment and care of those diagnosed with diabetes and I welcome that £44 million of transformation funding is being invested to achieve this.

So far over £11 million of this funding has been spent on increasing the uptake of structured education courses, which will help those with diabetes to better self-manage their condition. Almost £10 million has been invested to provide better access for diabetics to foot care teams, in order to reduce the number of amputations



necessary.

I hope this reassures you that the Government is committed to tackling diabetes as well as supporting those living with it to lead healthier lives.

Thank you again for taking the time to contact me.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Chris".

CHRIS HEATON-HARRIS MP
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FOR DAVENTRY