

The Tories' mismanagement of the NHS workforce has been a disaster for staff and patients – Justin Madders

Justin Madders MP, Labour's Shadow Health Minister, commenting on the publication of Health Education England's workforce strategy for England to 2027, said:

"The Tories' mismanagement of the NHS workforce has been a disaster for staff and patients and a sustainable strategy is long overdue.

"Ministers have repeatedly promised to boost staff numbers but have failed to deliver and now Health Education England has confirmed that there are thousands of vacant posts, difficulties in recruitment and a huge rise in turnover for key positions.

"Under this Government we have seen a series of failed policies with historic cuts to training places, the end of the nurses bursary and the self-defeating public sector pay cap which have all contributed to huge gaps in the NHS workforce.

"It is essential that the Government finally gets behind a long-term solution to NHS staffing problems by providing the resources the NHS needs to make this strategy work. Our NHS staff have reached breaking point and need hope that things are going to change."