

Theresa May continues to show utter disregard for patients – Ashworth

Responding

to Theresa May's comment on the Andrew Marr show that "nothing is perfect" in the NHS, Jonathan Ashworth MP, Labour's Shadow Health Secretary, said:

"Yet

again Theresa May has shown utter disregard for those patients languishing on trolleys, delayed in ambulances in the freezing cold weather or forced to wait

longer in pain and anxiety because their operation has been cancelled.

"A real

apology would be backed up by real action. Instead all we get is a plan to promote the Health Secretary who has overseen this crisis. Promoting the Health

Secretary would be a betrayal of patients who deserve better this winter."

Tories have a long way to go to reverse their abysmal record on animal welfare – Hayman

Responding to Theresa May's announcement to drop plans for a vote on fox hunting, Sue Hayman MP, Shadow Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs said;

"The Tories have finally bowed to

pressure from Labour and campaigners with this long overdue U-Turn, just months

after the Prime Minister publicly stated her support for a free vote on the matter.

"85 per cent of the public do

not want a return of this cruel and barbaric activity. The Government must now outline

plans to take tough action against those who continue to conduct illegal fox hunts.

"The Tories still have a long way to

go to reverse their abysmal record on animal welfare. Labour calls on Theresa May to now drop her government's poorly regulated, reckless badger cull

across England, to take action against raptor bird persecution and make comprehensive commitments on banning the sale of ivory and wild animals in circuses.”

Unlike this Government, Labour is committed to supporting renewable energy projects – Alan Whitehead

Alan Whitehead MP, Labour’s Shadow Energy and Climate Change Minister, commenting on the Governments response to the unabated coal closure consultation, said:

“While Labour supports the phased removal of coal from the system by 2025, unfortunately, this consultation leaves open a number of loopholes that could hinder the process.

“The Government’s lacklustre support for renewables and scrappage of a number of green schemes has left it on course to miss its own climate targets. Similarly, their decision to massively reduce the levels of funding for carbon capture and storage, which would help a genuinely inclusive transition, is disappointing.

“Unlike this Government, Labour is committed to supporting future renewable energy projects to build the clean economy of the future.”

Bailout of East Coast rail is undoubtedly good news for the pay packet of Richard Branson – Andy McDonald

Andy McDonald MP, Labour’s Shadow Transport Secretary, responding to Richard Branson’s comments defending the Government for the bailout of Virgin’s East Coast Rail franchise, said:

“The bailout of the East Coast rail franchise is undoubtedly good news for the pay packet of Richard Branson, but not for taxpayers and passengers who

have been short-changed by up to £2 billion.

"This bailout is yet another example of the Tories defending profiteering train companies and the rich elite at the expense of the British public who pay for and use our rail services."

It's concerning that the sales of new cars are falling – Long-Bailey

Rebecca Long-Bailey MP, Labour's Shadow Business Secretary, commenting on the fall in new car sales for the first time in six years, said:

"The Government's mismanagement of the economy and mishandling of the Brexit negotiations has shaken consumer and business confidence and it's concerning that the sales of new cars are falling.

"The industry has been warning the Government time and time again and, as has become typical with the Tories, they have failed to listen or take action.

"The British car industry is a vital part of our economy, directly employing up to 170,000 people. Labour's Industrial Strategy will set out a radical programme of investment and genuine partnership between industry and government, to protect vital jobs and build an economy that works for the many, not the few."