

Scottish Labour Party

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Dear NHS & Social Care Staff

On behalf of everyone in the Scottish Labour Party, we are writing to thank you for everything you are doing to provide care and medical treatment to the people of Scotland during this difficult time.

When much of the world is in lockdown in an attempt to slow the spread of the COVID-19 virus, we still rely upon you to leave your friends and family in order to care for ours. That sacrifice you make every day does not go unrecognised: each of us owe you our heartfelt appreciation.

To show our gratitude, we were proud to join millions of our fellow citizens across the UK last week in applauding you and everyone working in our National Health Service and social care system. We will be there every Thursday joining in that applause. We hope that you are proud in being rightly thanked and celebrated for the part you will play in supporting social care and the NHS through some difficult days and weeks ahead.

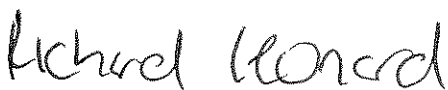
Every person working in social care and the NHS - the doctors, nurses, carers, allied health professionals, pharmacists, paramedics, janitors, cleaners, porters, catering staff, administrative support workers, and the many others that our health and care services rely upon— will each play a pivotal role in ensuring that we get through this crisis together.

Over the coming weeks our hospitals and care sector will come under even greater pressure than we have ever seen before, pushing many services to their absolute limit. Many of your colleagues might fall ill, but if they do, it should not be because of a lack of testing and a shortage of Personal Protective Equipment. That is why, as politicians, we have been demanding that the Scottish Government carries out regular testing of NHS staff and care workers, and that you are equipped with appropriate levels of PPE and safe systems of work, to protect you during this pandemic. We are working closely with trade unions and professional bodies and have been raising their top priorities on these issues in Parliament.

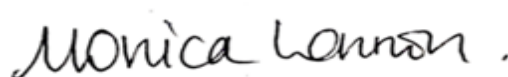
We want you to be assured that you have our commitment to support the NHS and social care sector in every way we can. If there is anything you feel we can do to support you, at any point, during or after the crisis, or anything you feel we should be made aware of, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Once again, we want to thank you for everything you have already done and everything you will do.

Yours sincerely



Richard Leonard MSP
Scottish Labour Leader



Monica Lennon MSP
Scottish Labour Health Spokesperson