

THE PRESCRIPTION CHARGES COALITION 2017 GENERAL ELECTION PLEDGE

In the run up to the June 2017 UK General Election, the Prescription Charges Coalition and its supporters contacted all prospective parliamentary candidates in England. We asked them to commit to supporting a review of the medical exemption criteria for prescription charges if elected. In total 380 candidates pledged their support, 18 of whom were subsequently elected to serve as Members of Parliament (MPs).

Member of Parliament	Constituency	<u>Party</u>
Barbara Keeley	Worsley and Eccles South	Labour
Caroline Lucas	Brighton, Pavilion	Green
David Drew	Stroud	Labour
Dennis Skinner	Bolsover	Labour
Derek Twigg	Halton	Labour
Justin Madders	Ellesmere Port and Neston	Labour
Kate Hoey	Vauxhall	Labour
Kevan Jones	North Durham	Labour
Kevin Barron	Rother Valley	Labour
Lloyd Russell-Moyle	Brighton, Kemptown	Labour
Margaret Greenwood	Wirral West	Labour
Mike Gapes	Ilford South	Labour
Preet Gill	Birmingham, Edgbaston	Labour
Ronnie Campbell	Blyth Valley	Labour
Sandy Martin	Ipswich	Labour
Sue Hayman	Workington	Labour
Teresa Pearce	Erith and Thamesmead	Labour
Thangham Debbonaire	Bristol West	Labour

Although none of the elected Liberal Democrat MPs signed up to our pledge campaign, the Liberal Democrat Party included in its manifesto a commitment to review prescription charge exemptions to ensure they are fair to those with long-term conditions and disabilities. It is also Green Party policy to abolish all prescription charges in England. The list above reflects all public pledges of support received during the campaign – the coalition also received private expressions of support from a number of Labour, Conservative and Liberal Democrat MPs.

The Prescription Charges Coalition has produced a comprehensive guide to lobbying your MP on prescription charges, whether they took the pledge or not. You can download this from our website.