

Hard-working people don't want an NHS where they are charged for treatments – Jonathan Ashworth

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Ashworth MP, Labour's Shadow Secretary of State for Health, commenting on reports that GPs are drawing up plans to charge patients for evening and weekend appointments, said:

"The fairest, most efficient and most equitable way of delivering healthcare is to ensure it is publicly funded and free at the point of use.

"Reports that GPs are now considering introducing charging would allow wealthier patients to jump the queue. It is an intolerable consequence of Government under-funding of General Practice and the Tories' wasteful re-organisation of the NHS.

"This is yet another stark revelation about the reality of Tory mismanagement of the NHS. The Prime Minister simply cannot keep blaming everyone other than her own Government for the scale of this crisis. Hard-working people don't want an NHS where they are charged for treatments. Theresa May needs to get a grip and fast."