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Keeley MP, Labour's Shadow Cabinet Minister for Social Care, commenting on the latest delayed transfer of care figures, said:

“Over

the past seven years the Tories have presided over a crisis in social care. Today's delayed transfer of care figures show that crisis is still getting worse on their watch.

“It

is deeply worrying that delayed transfers of care attributed to social care have increased by almost 10,000 since last year and have doubled in the last three years. We know that keeping older and vulnerable patients in hospital longer than needed poses significant risks to their morale, mobility and to their likelihood of contracting hospital-acquired infections. Under this Government these risks are increasing.

“The

Tory solution of threatening to punish those councils struggling with social care is not the answer. Taking funding away from councils will only lead to worsening quality and safety issues in care. Rather than threatening councils, the Tories need to match Labour's commitment and provide urgent additional funding for social care.”