<u>Justin Madders response to Philip</u> <u>Dunne saying that there are seats to</u> sit on if beds aren't available

Justin

Madders MP, Labour's Shadow Health Minister, responding to Philip Dunne MP's remark that there are seats to sit on if beds aren't available, said:

"This

is an appalling and ignorant remark from a Minister entirely out of touch with

the reality of the NHS winter crisis.

"Placing

sick patients in chairs because of acute bed shortages is clearly not acceptable in the 21st Century. And yet with numerous Trusts this winter at times reporting 100 per cent bed occupancy, hospitals simply cannot cope and are being forced into these intolerable situations.

"Patients

and staff are currently facing an unprecedented winter crisis. Instead of worrying about reshuffles, the Prime Minister must urgently sort this mess out."