

The following letter was sent to each of the original six candidates for the Labour Party leadership but to date no replies have been received.

7th June 2010

Dear

In view of your candidacy for the leadership of the Labour Party, I am writing to you on behalf of the Executive Committee of the NHS Consultants' Association, an organization whose main purpose is the maintenance and development of the NHS as a public service, true to its original principles.

We have noted with interest that, in the inevitable period of reappraisal, candidates have expressed doubts about some actions of the previous government.

In the light of this and in relation to the NHS, would you personally be willing to reconsider the policy of continuing and indeed reinforcing the market based system introduced by the Conservative government twenty years ago? This has particular relevance now with the recent report on Commissioning by the Health Select Committee and the call for major "efficiency savings" in the NHS .

Together with the BMA and other organizations we have been working on developing positive and more cost effective alternatives to "the Market" in the NHS in England.

We would welcome the opportunity to share our ideas with you.

With best wishes,

Peter Fisher
President