Dear Constituents,

Thank you for contacting me about the new junior doctor contract.

The Government has reached an agreement with the British Medical Association trade union (BMA) on a new junior doctor contract which marks an important step forward in delivering the vital manifesto promise of a 7-day NHS.

The new contract guarantees better training, safety and working conditions for junior doctors. It delivers a substantial basic pay rise of around 10–11 per cent subject to modelling for all junior doctors working legal hours and introduces new limits on the number of hours worked, and consecutive nights and long days worked in a row. Pay increases will be properly linked to doctors’ progression and level of responsibility, and it scraps incentives for long and unsafe hours, helping to tackle locum costs and supports hospitals to deliver truly 7-Day services.

A new family support package will help junior doctors balance their home life with work, including joint training placements for couples and a catch-up programme for those who take time out of training.

I am glad that the BMA came back to the table to negotiate, showed willingness to compromise on weekend pay rates, and that a deal has been reached. This will now be put to eligible BMA members, supported and endorsed as a ‘good deal’ by the Chair of the BMA’s Junior Doctors Committee and I hope it will now be supported by the profession as a whole.

The ambition of a 7-day NHS is supported by a continued desire by Ministers to work with professionals wherever possible, and is backed by a £10 billion real terms increase in the annual NHS budget.

Thank you again for taking the time to contact me.

ALAN MAK MP

Member of Parliament for Havant

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