

Open Letter to Zack Polanski



11 November 2025

Dear Zack,

Congratulations on your leadership with the Greens, and thank you for your clear, consistent voice on clean air, and Long Covid. Your commitment to tackling inequality and driving bold systemic change deeply resonates with our work at Long Covid Advocacy.

Across the UK, people with infection-associated chronic illness, including Long Covid and ME – still face deep inequality in treatment and care. The pandemic revealed a broken system of post-acute viral care and numbers of ME are skyrocketing due to Covid. Services are fragmented, disbelief remains widespread, and too often patients are left to navigate complex conditions without meaningful and effective medical support.

The kind of change required is ambitious and structural. The same courage needed to face the climate emergency. Both crises share a familiar pattern of denial: evidence minimised, human suffering ignored, responsibility deferred. Yet both demand the same response – honesty, evidence, and reform that begins from the ground up.

We have seen pioneering policy on Covid and Long Covid, developed through the Greens Against Covid Group.

We believe **BOLD POLITICS** can continue to lead the way by championing:

- Co-produced, trauma-informed commissioned NHS care for severe ME and Long Covid.
- Quality, evidence-based medical education and clinical practice to replace outdated approaches.
- Biomedical research and RECOVERY-style trials, developed in partnership with patients.
- Centres of excellence integrating care, research, and community knowledge.
- Public health leadership connecting clean air, infection control, vaccination and equitable access to care.

Your voice can help drive the bold, compassionate system change these issues demand – a shift towards justice, science, and care that honours lived experience.

Together, we want to restore hope: for those still unwell, for those left behind, and for a health system that listens, learns, and acts with integrity.

With appreciation and solidarity,

Long Covid Advocacy