



10 DOWNING STREET
LONDON SW1A 2AA

2 March 2026

THE PRIME MINISTER

Dear Ashley,

Thank you for your letter today, tendering your resignation as Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Public Health and Prevention. It is with great sadness that I accept your resignation, though I do entirely understand and support your decision to focus on your health.

You are an exemplary Minister and should be extremely proud of the impact that you have made on behalf of this Labour government. From the 10-Year Health Plan's shift from sickness to prevention, to the junk food advertising ban and the Tobacco and Vapes Bill, your leadership has enabled us to take a firm stance in favour of public health. You should be equally proud of the HIV Action Plan, which puts us on a path to end new HIV transmissions in England by 2030, and the first ever Men's Health Strategy. Their implementation will save and improve people's lives and tackle inequalities.

I am particularly grateful, as you know, for your work on the National Cancer Plan. It will allow us to improve survival, care, research, and the wellbeing of millions of cancer patients. To complete the work whilst receiving ongoing treatment yourself is a remarkable contribution.

Whilst I will be sorry to lose you from the frontbench, I know you will continue to serve your constituents in West Lancashire with the energy and commitment you have shown as a Minister.

Wishing you all the very best for your ongoing treatment.

*Thank you so much
for all that you've done,*

Ashley

Ashley Dalton MP