

# Layla Moran MP



HOUSE OF COMMONS  
LONDON SW1A 0AA

Chancellor of the Exchequer  
HM Treasury  
1 Horse Guards Road  
Westminster  
London  
SW1A 2HQ

26<sup>th</sup> October 2026

Dear Chancellor,

I write to urge you to consider making capital funding available in the Budget to finance a new maternity unit for Oxford.

The National investigation into NHS maternity and neonatal services in England said that a lack of capital investment directly undermined safety and care quality. The £41 million promised in response to the review will only cover urgent safety risks such as ventilation and will do little to support clinical productivity and improve the standard of care.

The Chair of the review, Baroness Amos, described Oxford University Hospital's Maternity Unit as possibly "the worst" estate she had seen. I visited recently with the CEO of NHS England Jim Mackey, and it was clear that a new maternity unit is the only solution.

- The building was designed in 1972 for 5000 births a year, it now supports 40% more than that.
- Maternity care is also considerably more complex, with 40% of births delivered by c-section, with greater demands on theatres, recovery facilities and high dependency care.
- Modern facilities are designed with greater provision of single occupancy rooms, en-suite facilities, dedicated space for families, and improved links between maternity, neonatal and theatre services. Oxford doesn't have that.
- Significant investment continues to be required to keep the Women's Centre safe and operational, but however much investment is made, the fundamental limitations remain.

A new purpose-built maternity and neonatal centre in Oxford would provide the capacity, clinical infrastructure and family-centred environment needed to protect privacy and dignity, support safer care and meet future demand.

Early estimates indicate that this would require investment of around £120 million, which cannot be met through local NHS capital budgets alone and will require national support.

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I urge you to use the opportunity of the budget to commit to this urgently needed capital investment in our maternity services.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Layla Moran'.

**Layla Moran MP**

**Liberal Democrat Member of Parliament for Oxford West & Abingdon**