Long Covid Advocacy urges Zack Polanski to lead on Long Covid during COP30

Tuesday 11 November, 2025

Long Covid Advocacy has released an **open letter to Green Party Leader Zack Polanski**, congratulating his leadership and calling for bold, systemic reform in how the UK approaches post-viral illness, including Long Covid and ME.

The group, which campaigns for justice, research, and patient-led reform, draws strong parallels between the denial surrounding the climate emergency and the neglect of infection-associated chronic illness. Both, they write, demand courage, honesty, and reform “from the ground up.”

The release also notes that climate breakdown increases the risk of new pandemics, as ecological disruption and warming drive the spread of infectious disease. “The same political courage needed to face the climate crisis is needed to build resilient, evidence-based public health systems,” LCA said. “Ignoring either comes at enormous social and human cost.”

> “Across the UK, people with infection-associated chronic illness, including Long Covid and ME, still face deep inequality in treatment and care,” the letter states. “Services are fragmented, disbelief remains widespread, and too often patients are left to navigate complex conditions without meaningful and effective medical support.”

The letter praises the Greens’ pioneering policy on Covid and Long Covid, developed through the *Greens Against Covid* group, and urges the party to take this further - championing:

- Co-produced, trauma-informed NHS care for severe ME and Long Covid.
- Quality, evidence-based medical education and clinical practice.
- 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.

As COP30 unfolds, LCA says this moment demands political courage - to speak where others remain silent and act on truths that are “politically inconvenient but morally urgent.”

> “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.”

Media:


Open Letter to Zack Polanski

LONG COVID ADVOCACY

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

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Related Sectors:

Charities & non-profits :: Coronavirus (COVID-19) :: Environment & Nature :: Government ::

Related Keywords:

Long Covid :: ME :: Post-Acute Viral Illness :: Inequality :: Greens :: Zack Polanski :: cop30 :: Climate Crisis :: Public Health :: Care :: Research :: Politics ::

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