



**Andrew Ranger**  
Member of Parliament for Wrexham  
House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA  
Tel: 01978 788854

## **Andrew Ranger MP - Statement on the Labour Leadership Situation**

I have spent the past few days listening carefully, first to the Prime Minister's speech on Monday, and then to the King's Speech, reflecting on what both mean for my constituents in Wrexham, for Wales, and for the millions of people across this country who voted for change in 2024 and are still waiting to feel it. I wanted to give both speeches a fair hearing.

The tone on Monday was better. The acknowledgement that incremental change will not cut it was welcome. But acknowledgement is not the same as action. What this country needs is not adjustment to a failing status quo, it needs fundamental change. The King's Speech, when it came, did not deliver that.

In February, I wrote to the Prime Minister directly, urging him to be bolder and to move faster. The direction has not fundamentally changed. And yesterday confirmed it. The status quo of the last twenty years, of communities like Wrexham being told that change is coming, that investment is on its way, that this time will be different, cannot continue. People are not asking for promises. They are asking for results.

Fairness demands I recognise what this Prime Minister has achieved. The Employment Rights Act was the most significant strengthening of workers' rights in a generation, and it matters enormously to working people in Wrexham. His steady hand in keeping Britain out of the Iran conflict showed real courage and serious statecraft. These are not small things, and they are precisely why this is not a position I ever wanted to find myself in, two years after an election.

But my constituents face real and pressing daily challenges, on the cost of living, on the security of their jobs, on the prospects for their children, on the future of their high streets. This government is not moving with the urgency those challenges demand.

Last week's election results, the worst for a governing Labour party in modern history, were not an accident. In Wales, where Labour's faith has been tested to breaking point, the verdict carried particular weight. We cannot keep asking people to wait.

I have therefore reached the conclusion that new leadership is needed. But I want to be clear about what I am and am not calling for.

I am not calling for an immediate resignation. I am not calling for chaos, for a rushed contest, or for the kind of destructive internal warfare that serves nobody, least of all the communities we are here to represent.

The country needs a functioning government today, tomorrow, and in the months ahead. The work of governing cannot stop, and I will not be part of anything that puts it at risk.

**Constituency Office:**  
**33 King Street, Wrexham, LL11 1HR**  
[andrew.ranger.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:andrew.ranger.mp@parliament.uk)



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What I am calling for is for the Prime Minister to lead this transition with the same sense of order and purpose that he has brought in all matters previously. He has shown he is a serious, steady leader.

I am asking him to apply that now, to announce a planned and controlled timetable for his departure, to set the process in motion on his own terms, and to hand over to new leadership in a manner that is dignified, stable, and in the best interests of the country and the party.

The next leader must take the baton and run with urgency, for Wrexham, for Wales, and for every community across this country still waiting for the fundamental change they were promised. That change is overdue. But it can be delivered.

I will continue to serve my constituents in Wrexham with everything I have, and to fight for Wales in Parliament every day. That work does not pause. But I owe the people who sent me to Westminster my honest judgement.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andrew Ranger".

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MP for Wrexham

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**33 King Street, Wrexham, LL11 1HR**  
[andrew.ranger.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:andrew.ranger.mp@parliament.uk)