

# Layla Moran MP, Health and Social Care Select Committee Chair

(Lib Dem, Oxford West)

* Layla Moran MP has been the Lib Dem MP for Oxford West and Abingdon since 2017.
* She is the current favourite to chair the Health and Social Care Select Committee following its September 11 election.
* Most recently, she held a number of Liberal Democrat Spokesperson roles including for Science, Innovation and Technology, and for Foreign Affairs and International Development.

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# Background

Most recently, Moran held the roles of Liberal Democrat Spokesperson for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs and Spokesperson for International Development from September 2020 until the 2024 General Election. In addition, she was made the Spokesperson for Science, Innovation and Technology in April 2023 and also held this role until the General Election. Prior to this, Moran was the Spokesperson for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport from August 2019 to January 2020, and the Spokesperson for Education from June 2017 to September 2020.

Moran has been an MP since 2017, where she was selected as the Liberal Democrat MP for Oxford West and Abingdon. She was re-elected in 2019 and 2024, increasing her vote share both times. Moran ran in the 2020 Liberal Democrat leadership election, where she finished in second place to Ed Davey MP. She had previously been considered a frontrunner for the role in the 2019 Liberal Democrat leadership election, despite being a relatively new MP, but she ultimately decided against running.

In October 2022, Moran was supported by the Good Law Project in lodging a complaint with the Charity Commission against the Global Warming Policy Foundation, claiming that it was operating in breach of charity law. The Charity Commission has yet to publish its report on the case.

Prior to entering politics she worked as a physics and maths teacher in London and Brussels, having acquired an undergraduate degree in physics from Imperial College London.

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# Politics

Moran is the first UK parliamentarian of Palestinian descent, and the daughter of EU diplomat James Moran. She has stated that her background has led to a particular interest in foreign policy issues: she recently called for the UK to formally recognise Palestine ([link](https://www.newstatesman.com/world/middle-east/2024/08/layla-moran-the-personal-and-professional-have-collided-like-never-before)), and criticised the UK arms trade overseas, calling for a suspension of exports to Israel ([link](https://www.oxfordmail.co.uk/news/24232054.oxford-mps-asked-whether-uk-end-arms-sales-israel/)).

She is also particularly interested in education and young people, an interest she would likely bring to bear as Chair of the Health Select Committee. As well as being a teacher before entering Parliament, Moran has served as a primary school governor and is a frequent campaigner on curriculum reform and the secondary school system, using her maiden speech in Parliament to discuss school funding. Beyond foreign policy and education, her primary policy focus in Parliament has been climate change.

Moran is very socially progressive, and has taken a combative approach to issues she cares about. She is active on social media, and a regular guest on broadcast.