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In an interview with Nursing Times, Ms Anderson said “I got involved in this just because I am so angry about what’s happening.”

She claimed the government was “systematically cutting funding to the NHS,” when the health service was the “last place funding should be cut.”

However, she told Nursing Times she never expected to become a political candidate. “If someone had told me two years ago I’d be doing this, I’d have laughed,” she said. “I’m not a politician, I’m a nurse - and will always be a nurse.”

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Ms Anderson said she was well placed to observe changes in the NHS, having spent a number of years in roles outside nursing, including as an inspector for the Healthcare Commission – a role in which she used to meet patient care. “The role is that of a lead nurse in pain management at a large, unnamed north London hospital.

“Nursing Times”

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