

# DAVID SIMMONDS CBE MP

RUISLIP, NORTHWOOD AND PINNER



## HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

Rt Hon Wes Streeting MP  
Secretary of State for Health and Social Care  
Department of Health and Social Care  
39 Victoria Street  
London, SW1H 0EU

*Dear Wes,*

29 July 2024

I am writing to you this afternoon on behalf of local pharmacies across Ruislip, Northwood and Pinner. I am certain that you will be eager to further the work of your predecessor in empowering and supporting pharmacies across the UK.

Across the country, there are over 10,500 pharmacies that provide primary services, often taking the strain of the NHS. Local pharmacies have always played a vital role in our healthcare system as they provide immediate access to medication at the heart of our communities.

The previous government went above and beyond to provide support and incentives for pharmacies. The recently introduced, Pharmacy First scheme saw 98% of our pharmacies deliver quick and accessible care and ease pressure on GP services.

To support this scheme, you will know that the government supported pharmacies with £645 million of additional funding, allowing pharmacists to provide treatment for seven of the most common ailments. As officials will tell you, this has saved patients' time and has ensured that they get the care they need quicker and closer to home.

This was in addition to support already given. As part of the Community Pharmacy Contractual Framework five-year deal, the then government committed £2.6 billion every year to community pharmacy and agreed not to recover £212 million in over delivered fees and margin from community pharmacies in recent years.

This support was vital for many of the pharmacies in my constituency. I am therefore hoping that you will immediately seek to quell the concerns of my constituents and set out how your department will continue investing in these much-treasured services.

I look forward to your response in due course.

Best regards,

*David*

David Simmonds CBE MP  
**Ruislip, Northwood, and Pinner**