[MP Name]

House of Commons

London

SW1A 0AA

[Date]

Dear [MP]

Congratulations on your [re] election as Member of Parliament for [constituency name].

I am writing to you on behalf of [name of LPC]. [As you know] We are the Local Pharmaceutical Committee (LPC) which represents the [number] community pharmacies in your constituency. [NB: *If you do not have constituency data, include the number of pharmacies represented by the LPC and state the area.]*

Every day these pharmacies help local communities to access the medicines they need as well as giving advice on minor and long-term health conditions, healthy lifestyles and medicines, and offering a range of services including [local examples eg. help for substance misusers and smokers, emergency contraception, etc].

[*If possible, insert additional local information eg* In [constituency name] we have a large number of retired people/people from ethnic minorities/people on low incomes/drug misusers who rely on community pharmacies to [*give example* eg provide needle exchange services, offer services in different languages, provide home deliveries of medicines, provide advice and treatment for minor ailments]].

We know that healthcare is becoming an increasing worry for many people, as patients face longer waits to see GPs, hear about delays at A&E, and see social care squeezed. Community pharmacies in [constituency name] would like to do more to help reduce demand for GP appointments, prevent unnecessary A&E attendances, and help people to manage their long-term conditions, and they are ideally placed to do so.

To enable that, Government, local commissioners and community pharmacy need to work together to develop the services the NHS needs. But in many ways, the opposite is happening. Reductions in funding for pharmacies have left many struggling, and some are withdrawing services previously offered for free, including delivering medicines to housebound patients and preparing weekly medication trays. [*Insert impact on local services, if appropriate*]. [*Insert if appropriate for local area:* And rather than commissioning new pharmacy services, we are seeing our local services reduced.]

We [very much appreciated your recent support for community pharmacy and] would like to [continue to] work with you to build collaborative working relationships with our local commissioners, and with the Government, to create innovative pharmacy services that meet the changing needs of the population in [constituency name]. There are many ways in which you can help, such as by joining the All-Party Pharmacy Group or writing to the minister, and we wondered if you would consider meeting with us or visiting a local community pharmacy to find out more.

Please let me know if we can help organise a meeting or a visit to one of your local community pharmacies over the summer. We can also put you in touch with the national representative of community pharmacies on NHS matters, PSNC, if you would like a briefing on the national situation. If you are interested in joining the All-Party Pharmacy Group or being kept informed of its work, please contact its secretariat at appg-team@luther.co.uk

Kind regards,

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