**COVID-19: SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL PHARMACY HEROES**

Dear [MP],

[As you know,] The [xxx Local Pharmaceutical Committee] represents the community pharmacies in [name of constituency]. We [have very much appreciated your previous support for community pharmacy and] wanted to highlight how some of your local pharmacies have gone above and beyond to support patients and the public throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

Community pharmacies have been working tirelessly to ensure the public can get the medicines and healthcare support that they desperately need as the COVID-19 outbreak continues. Pharmacies are seeing an unprecedented demand for advice and increases in prescription volumes. Pharmacies have had to introduce different ways of working to accommodate the increased demand, such as operating queuing systems outside the pharmacy to help maintain social distance practices and placing restrictions on the quantity of over-the-counter drugs available to customers. Some pharmacies have reported violence and abuse from patients who are frustrated by these changes.

But despite being under this immense pressure, there have been many accounts of pharmacists in [xxx] who have gone above and beyond to continue to provide local patients and the public with medicines and healthcare advice.

[Share a local example – perhaps an account from a pharmacy, describing their team’s experience and how they have gone above and beyond to help a patient or their local communities]

We are promoting much of the positive work our pharmacies and their staff are doing at the moment and would be grateful if you could help by publicly supporting our local pharmacy heroes in [xxx]. This could take the form of a joint press release with a quote, if you are happy to collaborate. Otherwise, we will be continuing to promote positive local pharmacy stories on social media (on Twitter using #pharmacyheroes) and it would be great if you could join us – we can share some template tweets and graphics which we are using as part of our local campaign.

Although we are working to promote positive, good local work in community pharmacies, there is much more that the sector needs at a national level to ensure pharmacies can continue to serve patients at this time. We would be more than happy to provide you with a briefing if you would like more information on this.

Kind regards,

[xxx]