To: Date:

Dear ……….

I am a ……… [enter job role here e.g., practicing pharmacist and the owner] at ……… Pharmacy). We are proud to be serving the needs of patients in your constituency and have done so for ………years. Our pharmacy is part of the fabric of our community and as such I feel compelled to bring to your attention the anger and unfairness of the way my profession is being treated by the current policies implemented by the commissioners.

Higher medicines costs, dispensing at a loss, lack of level playing field created by commissioners that has caused a massive workforce challenge in our sector, bureaucratic burden, and a contract that does not consider the inflationary pressures are just some of the issues that are making it increasingly difficult for pharmacies like us to be able to operate. Over 1000 pharmacies have closed so far and many more are set to close by the end of this year.

As you are aware timing is everything in business. The official response from the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) has been to quote an additional £100 million has been invested in my sector. The scale of deficit right now I’m afraid will not even touch the sides. Over 90% of the activities in our pharmacy are NHS activities yet we are still subject to business rates in a similar way as high street retailers, even though we do not pass the costs related to the inflation on to our patients.

Please could you reflect my concerns to Minister and the plight of my profession. Local pharmacies like mine could do so much more if given the believe and the funding to deliver.

Yours Sincerely,