

Subject: **We need your support *with the threats to Hospice care***

Dear

I am writing as a member of your constituency to ask you to support vital end of life care, provided by Arthur Rank Hospice Charity.

The Charity has recently been served notice on its contract with Cambridge University Hospitals, which equates to £829,000 annually. This contract allows for up to 9 patients at a time to be cared for by the Hospice's experienced and caring nurses. This service has been running since 2018 following a successful pilot that started in December 2017. In the last year this service has allowed us to care for 221 people and their loved ones in their last days of life.

The funding has allowed direct discharge from the hospital to the Hospice, providing additional community capacity, for example for people who may not be in a position to go home, but who don't necessarily need (or want) to be in hospital. This aids patient flow and frees up acute capacity - exactly as per the intent of the NHS Ten Year Plan which sets out a vision for a neighbourhood health service, ensuring people receive more personalised care closer to home.

Hospices nationally are already making this vision a reality. They deliver care and support that enables people to stay at their preferred place of death - whether that be at home, in the hospice, where they can be surrounded by the people and things they love most. But instead of expanding to meet growing demand, Arthur Rank Hospice Charity and many other hospices are being forced to cut back services. Rising costs and an unsustainable funding model make it an uphill battle to keep them running.

With fair funding from Government, hospices like Arthur Rank Hospice Charity can maintain, and even expand, their important services. They can support the ambition laid out in the Ten Year Plan for Health to provide more care, closer to home.

I would be hugely grateful if, as my local MP, you could drop-in to Parliament's Hospice at Home on Wednesday 15 October, 10am-3pm in the Jubilee Room. Please join Hospice UK in celebrating the breadth of support hospices offer, and to call for fair funding that will secure the future of these vital services.

Yours sincerely,

Name, Post Code