XX MP

House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

DATE

Dear XX,

I am *insert name, role,* and I am writing to askyou to publicly support *practice, LMC* , and more widely all GPs and their staff across the country.

During the pandemic we have worked tirelessly. There has never been a time when myself and my colleagues have not been giving our all to get our patients through these unprecedented times.

Please describe your experience of working throughout the pandemic – extended hours, pressures, risk of infection and the overall impact on you, practice staff and patients.

Many GP practices are feeling swamped, which is echoed in the latest national statistics showing that GP surgeries delivered nearly one million more appointments in July 2021 than pre-pandemic levels (July 2019), with the majority of these being face to face. At the same time in *add area* we have led and delivered an incredibly successful covid-19 vaccination programme, which myself and my colleagues are rightfully proud of.

While the majority of our patients are understanding of the difficulties facing our practice, please include some of your concerns such as, staffing, premises, maintaining IPC measures, we are still experiencing an increase in instances of abuse and violence towards staff. Please outline some of the experiences in your practice and the impact on you and your colleagues.

I am just as concerned about long wait times, and trouble accessing services as my patients, but the solution is not to make GPs scapegoats, as we are seeing in the media, for pressures which are outside of our control. Instead, there must be an honest conversation both at a national, and a local level about what we can do to make things better. We need your support to call on government to publicly acknowledge the scale of the problem, and we then need local and national plans to increase the number of GPs, to make our premises safe and fit for purpose, to end the abuse of staff and to free up GP time by reducing unnecessary bureaucracy.

Please add in any local issues specific to your practice.

Your public support for GP practices and services at this time would mean so much to all of us, working in general practice, in your constituency. I would be very pleased to host you at our practice to see what we do and discuss this further.

Your sincerely