



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

The Rt Hon Wes Streeting MP  
Secretary of State for Health and Social Care  
39 Victoria Street  
London  
SW1H 0EU

15 November 2024

**Return of Emergency Department Services to Solihull Borough**

Dear Secretary of State,

We are writing to you regarding the urgent need to improve healthcare provision in Solihull Borough and the surrounding areas.

One of our top priorities is to ensure that our constituents have access to first class health services. Over the General Election campaign, we had countless conversations on the doorsteps with residents who expressed deep concerns about local provision, especially regarding Emergency Department (ED) services. We are determined and committed to restoring ED services to Solihull Borough and would welcome working with you constructively to achieve this ambition.

In the most recent quarter, there were an average of 14% more attendees at EDs than there were ten years ago which means more people are facing longer waiting times. In August 2024, 65.4% of patients at Birmingham and Solihull ICB spent less than four hours in major EDs which is markedly below the NHS target of 95%. We share the concerns of our constituents that this issue will become more pressing given that the new Government's planning reforms are likely to exacerbate demand.



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A larger population will almost certainly heighten demand for local healthcare services and increase strain on the local NHS because of a natural population increase with new builds. Therefore, it is vital that there is adequate infrastructure in place to support a growing population and the complex needs it might have.

The Government, in which you serve, is committed to 'building an NHS which is fit for the future.' Therefore, we would welcome your support in helping to secure better provision for the people of Solihull and the surrounding areas. We would like to meet with you, in your role as Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, to outline the urgent need for better provision in our constituencies and the surrounding areas.

We look forward to your response.

Yours sincerely,

Saqib Bhatti MP

Dr Neil Shastri-Hurst MP

Member of Parliament for Meriden and  
Solihull East

Member of Parliament for Solihull West and  
Shirley