



**Bim Afolami MP**  
Member of Parliament for Hitchin & Harpenden  
House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA  
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**Rt. Hon. Steve Barclay MP,**  
Secretary of State for Health & Social Care,  
Department of Health and Social Care  
39 Victoria Street  
London  
SW1H 0EU

19<sup>th</sup> July 2022

Dear Steve,

### **Closure of Rural GP Surgeries**

I trust this letter is well received.

I write to you following the news that the GP Surgery in the village of Kimpton in my constituency is to be closed from the 31<sup>st</sup> August by the East and North Hertfordshire CCG. This GP Surgery currently serves the residents of the rural parish of Kimpton – an area of around 2,000 residents covering the villages of Kimpton, Peters Green, Blackmore End and other small rural communities.

The closure of this surgery is a blow to a significant rural community and will require residents to travel some distance to access basic healthcare services they need. For those who are vulnerable or find travel difficult, this might have a material impact on their health and their ability to catch problems before they become too serious.

I know that you will understand how important it is that rural communities continue to have access to local GP services. I hope that you will be able to work with me to ensure that Kimpton and other rural communities in Hitchin & Harpenden continue to be able to access a GP – whether that be through a permanent surgery or a regular drop-in service in their village – over the longer term.

I look forward to receiving your response.

Kind regards,