

ELLIOT COLBURN MP



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

The Rt Hon Steve Barclay MP
Chief Secretary to the Treasury
HM Treasury
1 Horse Guards Road
London
SW1A 2HQ

13 November 2020

Our Ref: EC8900

Dear Steve,

RE: Comprehensive Spending Review and Mental Health

I am writing on behalf of the Mental Health Foundation, of which I am a champion, and in relation to their letter to you on future government spending for mental health services.

Mental health support is a hugely important issue for my constituents in Carshalton and Wallington, and is something I have raised several times in the House since I became their MP, including in debates earlier in the year on the NHS Funding Bill.

COVID-19 has had a huge impact on the mental health of people across the country, and I am aware of research that has shown there will be around 10 million people with new or increased needs due to the pandemic.

As important as the economic recovery, the nation's ability to recover from the mental health impact of COVID-19 is critical, and I very much support the Mental Health Foundation's calls for existing funding commitments to be delivered, and for services to be properly resourced to support the ongoing and worsening mental health symptoms this crisis has provoked.

I should be very grateful if you could consider the attached briefing from the Mental Health Policy Group, and consider what and where targeted funding will make the most difference.

With best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Elliot Colburn', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Elliot Colburn

Conservative Member of Parliament for Carshalton and Wallington

[Enc.]