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Mr Phil Johns
NHS Coventry and Warwickshire Integrated Care Board
Coventry
CV1 2NJ

Our Ref: MP01670

27 February 2025

Dear Mr. Phil Johns,

Cancer Treatment Delays

I am writing to better understand the root cause of cancer treatment delays in hospitals managed by the Coventry and Warwickshire Integrated Care Board.

It has been brought to my attention that constituents of Stratford-on-Avon are experiencing significant delays to their cancer treatment. In some cases, these delays are as long as seven weeks.

I am sure you will agree with me that these delays are too long. A wait of seven weeks for treatment can be paramount to a death sentence for those diagnosed with late-stage cancer.

I understand that national shortages of oncologists are certainly contributing to delays in cancer treatment, and that these delays are being experienced nationwide. However, constituents have alerted me to the fact that these delays may be compounded by mismanagement in the recruiting of appropriate health care professionals, and general management incompetence.

I am also concerned to hear reports that the ICB is planning to reduce cancer care budgets. Could you please confirm whether you plan to reduce cancer treatment budgets, and explain why cancer treatment is so extremely delayed in Warwickshire?

Yours sincerely,

Dr Manuela Perteghella MP
Member of Parliament for Stratford-on-Avon