

CHRIS HEATON-HARRIS MP



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

October 2018

*Dear Constituent,*

Thank you for contacting me about private sector involvement in the NHS.

I fully believe in our NHS and its values, which is why I welcome that the Government have guaranteed that the NHS will always provide healthcare free at the point of delivery, regardless of ability to pay. While private providers do play a small role in improving the provision of health care, let me be abundantly clear: the Government will never privatise the NHS.

The use of private providers and the voluntary sector in the delivery of NHS services is not a new concept, with the previous Government introducing the independent sector and competition into the NHS between 1997 and 2010.

Competition in the NHS should act as a means to an end in improving services for patients, never as an end in itself.

The NHS is something to be valued and protected which is why I support the commitment to properly funding the NHS. Since 2010 the NHS budget has increased every year and I am happy to say that despite challenging financial circumstances, the annual budget of the NHS is being increased by £20 billion in real terms by 2023/24.

Thank you again for taking the time to contact me.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Chris'.

**CHRIS HEATON-HARRIS MP**  
**MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FOR DAVENTRY**

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