

1 Horse Guards Road London SW1A 2HQ

The Rt Hon Sir George Howarth MP House of Commons London SW1A OAA

23 November 2020

Dear Rt Hon Sir George,

Thank you for your email dated 22 October on behalf of your constituents, regarding Medical research charities. The Treasury has received unprecedented amounts of correspondence since the start of the coronavirus outbreak in the UK. The Chancellor of the Exchequer has asked me to write to you directly.

Medical research charities are an integral part of the United Kingdom's world-leading life sciences sector. The Government is continuing to monitor the impact of Covid-19 on the work of medical research charities and has provided a significant support package as part of the Covid-19 response which the sector is able to access to assist with business and workforce costs.

As part of the charities package, Government understand some medical researchers will receive funding for their patient-facing services from the Department of Health and Social Care. In addition, the universities research support package has been designed to support existing research taking place, which includes charity funded research in universities.

Treasury officials are engaging with colleagues at the Association of Medical Research Charities as well as from Cancer Research UK and the British Heart Foundation on this issue too, and are looking at the latest proposals.

Many thanks for taking the time to share your concerns on such an important issue.

I hope this is helpful. If you have any questions about this reply, please email: public.enquiries@hmtreasury.gov.uk quoting reference MC2020/39068.

Yours sincerely,

Asif Abbas
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