



Richard Foord MP
Member of Parliament for Honiton & Sidmouth
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Mr W Streeting
Secretary of State for Health and Social Care
Department of Health and Social Care
39 Victoria Street
London
SW1H 0EU

14 January 2026

Dear Wes

RE: INCREASE IN FUNDING TO US PHARMACEUTICAL COMPANIES

I am writing to urge you to scrap Government plan to give billions of pounds to US pharmaceutical companies, and instead invest the money in health and social care in the UK.

Along with my colleagues, I have been deeply disappointed to learn of the intention to increase payments for American pharmaceuticals by up to £6bn, following unreasonable demands from US President Donald Trump.

You have repeatedly stated that the NHS is “on its knees” after more than a decade of neglect by successive Conservative governments. It has felt in the past year or so that progress was being made; I have supported much of your work to repair the health service. Yet the decision to pay additional sums for drugs continues the trend of putting ever-increasing sums into pharmaceutical developments, at the expense of care.

In Devon, matters are particularly perilous. New figures out this week reveal that almost 8,000 people waited longer than twelve hours in the Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital’s A&E department, in the twelve months to November 2025.

[NHS Devon’s health and care strategy](#) warns of a projected financial gap of £781 million by 2030/31 – a financial challenge that has been mounting for years. The organisation will require an extra £54 million, just to break even in 2025/26.

I would ask that you review priorities accorded to the price paid for the development of new drugs – particularly in the US – when set against shortfalls in the provision of care here in the UK.

Website - www.richardfoord.org.uk **Facebook** - Richard Foord MP

Whilst Richard Foord MP will treat as confidential any personal information that you pass on, he will normally allow staff and authorised volunteers to see it if this is needed to help and advise you. He may pass on all or some of the information to external agencies if this is necessary to help with your case. Richard Foord MP may wish to write to you from time to time to keep you informed on issues which you may find of interest. Please let him know if you do not wish to be contacted for this purpose.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Richard Foord".

Richard Foord MP
Member of Parliament for Honiton and Sidmouth