

From the Rt Hon Andy Burnham MP  
Secretary of State for Health



Your Ref: 01093915

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The Rt Hon Tessa Jowell MP  
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Dear Tessa,

Thank you for your letter of 9 December enclosing an example of correspondence you have received from a number of your constituents about prescription charges for people with long-term medical conditions.

As your constituents are aware, we asked Professor Ian Gilmore, President of the Royal College of Physicians, to carry out a review of prescription charges and specifically to consider patients with long-term conditions and how they should be defined for the purpose of exemption.

Professor Gilmore submitted his report to the Department of Health in November 2009 and his recommendations are now being considered. We will publish the review report and our response to the recommendations in due course.

I am sorry that I cannot provide your constituents with any more concrete details at this time.

Best wishes,

ANDY BURNHAM