**[Your Name]**
[Your Address]
[Postcode]
[Email Address]
[Date]

**[MP’s Name]**
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

Dear [MP’s Name],

**Re: Protecting the Independent Voice in Health and Social Care**

I am writing as a concerned constituent to urge you to oppose the proposed closure of national and local Healthwatch bodies, as outlined in the recent 10-Year Health Plan for England and the Penny Dash Review of Patient Safety.

Healthwatch plays a vital role as the independent champion for patients and the public in health and social care. Its statutory independence allows it to gather unfiltered feedback, challenge poor practice, and ensure that the voices of patients—especially the most vulnerable—are heard and acted upon.

The proposal to transfer public engagement functions to NHS commissioners and local authorities would fundamentally undermine this independence. It risks creating a system where feedback is softened, accountability is weakened, and public trust is eroded.

As highlighted in the open letter signed by over 130 local Healthwatch leaders, this move would reverse decades of progress in patient advocacy and transparency. The lessons of the Mid Staffordshire NHS scandal remind us of the dangers of failing to listen to patients and the importance of independent scrutiny.

I respectfully ask you to:

* Raise this issue in Parliament
* Urge the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care to reconsider the proposals
* Support the continued statutory independence and funding of local Healthwatch services

Thank you for your time and for representing our community. I would welcome the opportunity to discuss this further or to hear your views on the matter.

Yours sincerely,
**[Your Name]**