HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

Rt Hon Rachel Reeves MP
Chancellor of the Exchequer
HM Treasury
1 Horse Guards Road
London
SW1A 2HQ

Dear Chancellor,

We write again, as Members of Parliament from across the West Midlands, to express our deep concern regarding the future of the Children's Hospice Grant. This is a vital source of funding for hospices such as Acorns Children's Hospice, which provides exceptional care to some of the most vulnerable children and families in our constituencies.

Last year, the Government rightly renewed the Grant and, in doing so, recognised the irreplaceable role children's hospices play in delivering specialised palliative care. However, there is no indication that this funding will go beyond March 2026.

This year, £26 million was distributed to children's hospices across England through the Children's Hospice Grant. At Acorns, which supports hundreds of families across the West Midlands, this funding represents a significant proportion of its income. At more than £2 million the funding directly supports services such as clinical care, symptom management, short breaks, bereavement support, and outreach in the community.

Without a guarantee of continued funding, children's hospices, such as Acorns, face the very real prospect of having to reduce services or, in the worst case, turn terminally ill children and their families away. These are young people and families who are already facing the most unimaginable situation need certainty. They deserve to know that the care they rely upon today will still be there tomorrow.

We are therefore asking the Government to do two things. First, to secure the Children's Hospice Grant for a minimum of five more years. Second, to ensure that this funding rises annually in line with inflation.

This simple and targeted commitment will provide children's hospices with the financial stability they need to plan services, retain highly skilled staff, and ensure that no child or family is left without the care they need in their time of greatest need.

We would welcome the opportunity to meet with you, alongside representatives from Acorns and other children's hospices, to discuss this vital issue further. The future of children's hospice care is in the Government's hands. We hope you will give families the reassurance they so urgently need.

Dr. Neil Shastri-Hurst

Member of Parliament for Solihull West & Shirley

Co- signatories

Dame Harriet Baldwin MP

Saqib Bhatti MBE MP

Mark Garnier OBE MP

Rt Hon Sir Andrew Mitchell MP

Rt Hon Wendy Morton MP

Bradley Thomas MP