## **Chris Heaton-Harris**



Member of Parliament for Daventry House of Commons, London SW1A oAA

Tel: 020 7219 7048

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Decer Constituent,

Thank you for contacting me about HIV and AIDS, and the PrEP and PEP treatments.

Every effort is being made to fight discrimination surrounding HIV and AIDS and ensure that those affected can access the necessary treatments available to them. I know that treatment for HIV has continued throughout the COVID-19 crisis.

While I welcome the news that new HIV diagnoses across the UK fell by 15% between 2017 and 2018, more remains to be done. That is why I support the Government's commitment to stopping new HIV infections by 2030, through a National HIV and Sexual Health Promotion programme.

Additionally, following the success of the NHS England funded three-year impact trial of preexposure prophylaxis (PrEP), for HIV prevention, PrEP is becoming routinely available across England since March 2020, as part of the government's aim to end HIV transmission by 2030.

The funding from the Department of Health and Social Care will ensure anyone who is at a high risk of contracting HIV will receive PrEP from their local sexual health clinic to reduce their risk of getting the virus. NHS England will cover the costs of the drug and local authorities will be supported with £16 million funding to deliver services.

I welcome the Government's continued work with charities such as the Terence Higgins Trust and the World AIDS Day initiative, in order to raise awareness of HIV and reach groups with the highest rates of the infection.

Thank you again for taking the time to contact me.

Yours faithfully,

CHRIS HEATON-HARRIS MP MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FOR DAVENTRY

Website: www.heatonharris.com