Dear XXXX,

I am a GP at the XXX Practice in your constituency/council area, and I am urgently seeking your help.

Like GPs around the country, I am finding that demand for GP appointments is outstripping supply. There are simply not enough GPs. Patients should be able to consult their GP when needed. GPs want to deliver this, but the system is in crisis.

Around the country, we are delivering more appointments than ever before – 29.1 million appointments in December 2021, 20% more than in Dec 2019. [If you have the data: At XXX Practice the number of appointments we have delivered has gone up by X% in the same time.] But the long-standing workforce crisis coupled with growing patient demands is creating an unsafe and unmanageable situation for primary care. As of December 2021, we have the equivalent of 1,516 fewer fully qualified full-time GPs than in 2015. [If you have the data: In our own Practice, we have X fewer GPs than X years ago.]

This is leading to patient frustration, GP staff burnout and at its worst, a lower standard of care. 50% of GPs say they are currently suffering from depression, anxiety, stress, burnout, emotional distress or another mental health condition.

[Insert local story here: an example of the workforce and wellbeing crisis playing out in your area, at your Practice, in your life.]

In 2019, the UK Government promised to deliver a workforce plan for General Practice and the NHS. In 2022, we are still waiting.

[Adapt/delete as appropriate: Will you write to the Health Secretary, Sajid Javid, setting out the scale of /Will you meet with me to discuss] the crisis in General Practice and the danger to patient safety? We urgently need to see delivery of a workforce plan to relieve the pressure on General Practice.

I would be grateful if you could copy me into your correspondence.

Yours sincerely,

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