## BRADLEY THOMAS MP



The Rt Hon Wes Streeting Secretary of State for Health and Social Care Department of Health and Social Care 39 Victoria Street London SW1H0EU

4 November 2024

## Dear Secretary of State

I am writing to you on this occasion regarding the future of the Children's Hospice Grant. It was disappointing there was not a single mention of this vital funding in the Government's Budget last week.

Hospices up and down the country, including Acorns Children's Hospice in my constituency, had been calling on the Government to guarantee the future of the Children's Hospice Grant at the Budget.

As this did not happen, please can you confirm as a matter of urgency if you will protect and maintain the Children's Hospice Grant as a directly distributed, ringfenced grant, so Acorns, and every children's hospice in England can continue providing the care children and families desperately need.

And, to give Acorns and local families the assurances they need, will you also confirm that the Government guarantee the Children's Hospice Grant for at least five years and increase it by the rate of inflation every year.

By guaranteeing this core funding, it will allow Acorns and hospices across the country to be there for every child and family who needs them.

If this funding doesn't continue, for the first time in its history, Acorns is facing the prospect of turning away a child in need. This is surely a situation that you can't accept.

I look forward to hearing from you on this urgent matter.

Kind regards

**Bradley Thomas MP** 

Member of Parliament for Bromsgrove and the Villages