

PETER GIBSON MP



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

August 2021

Dear Constituent

Thank you for your email about alcohol misuse.

The Global Burden of Disease study has identified alcohol and drug use as one of the top five risk factors that cause premature deaths in England. I am, therefore, encouraged that the Government has targeted a range of areas to tackle alcohol misuse since the publication of the Alcohol Strategy in 2012.

Alcohol contributes to a range of conditions, including cardiovascular disease, cancer and liver disease, harm from accidents, violence and self-harm: as a result it places substantial pressure on the NHS. Trailblazer hospitals across the country have established specialist Alcohol Care Teams (ACTs), which significantly reduce accident and emergency attendances, bed days, readmissions and ambulance call-outs related to alcohol. By 2024, those hospitals with the highest rate of alcohol dependence-related admissions will be supported to fully establish ACTs. Delivered in the 25 per cent of worst affected hospitals, this could prevent 50,000 admissions over five years.

On a more local level, powers and responsibilities have been given to local areas to tackle public health concerns, and Public Health England (PHE) is working closely with them in assessing local alcohol-related need. Local authorities can commission the support services as they deem fit, and I am pleased to note that high quality, evidence-based treatment services are being run throughout the country.

Those affected by alcohol abuse are then further supported by the tireless efforts of Alcoholics Anonymous (AA). I commend the AA's ongoing work to assist individuals with their personal recovery.

Once again, thank you for taking the time to contact me and if I can ever be any further assistance to you then please do not hesitate to contact me again.

Yours sincerely
Peter Gibson

PETER GIBSON MP

Member of Parliament for Darlington

Constituency Office: 34 Duke Street, Darlington, Co. Durham, DL3 7AQ Telephone: 01325 711711

Email: peter.gibson.mp@parliament.uk Website: www.petergibson.org

