



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

The Rt Hon Ed Miliband MP
Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs
By Email

Our Ref: EC19489/EG

14 August 2026

Dear Ed,

Re: UK Funding for the International Pandemic Fund

Congratulations on your new role. I am writing, on behalf of constituents who are members of Covid-19 Bereaved Families for Justice UK, regarding the Government's decision to end UK funding for the international Pandemic Fund.

Like my constituent, I am deeply concerned that the UK withdrawing support from the Fund risks undermining global pandemic preparedness and believe that, after the devastating impact of Covid-19, the UK should be strengthening rather than reducing its commitment to preventing future pandemics.

As you will be aware, more than 230,000 people in the UK tragically lost their lives during the Covid-19 pandemic. The Pandemic Fund was established to help countries strengthen their ability to detect and respond to emerging disease outbreaks before they develop into global health emergencies. My constituent rightly points out that investment in prevention and preparedness can save lives and reduce the devastating human and economic costs of future pandemics.

I note that, in [response to a recent Parliamentary Question](#), the Minister stated that the Government would continue to support pandemic preparedness through organisations including the World Health Organization, Gavi and the Global Fund. While I welcome this continued investment in global health, I remain concerned that ending support for the Pandemic Fund may weaken international efforts to improve preparedness.

I would therefore be grateful if you could outline what assessment your Department has made of the potential impact that ending UK funding for the Pandemic Fund will have on future pandemic resilience. In particular, I would welcome clarification on how the Government intends to ensure that this decision does not undermine global efforts to detect and contain future outbreaks at an early stage.

Given the lessons of the Covid-19 pandemic, I would also ask that you reconsider the decision to end UK funding for the Pandemic Fund.

Dr Ellie Chowns MP

Member of Parliament for North Herefordshire
House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA

I look forward to your response that I can share with my constituents.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'E Chowns', written in a cursive style.

Dr Ellie Chowns MP
Member of Parliament for North Herefordshire