

# Welsh Affairs Committee

House of Commons London SW1A 0AA

Tel 020 7219 6189 Fax 020 7219 0316 Email [welshcom@parliament.uk](mailto:welshcom@parliament.uk)

Website [www.parliament.uk](http://www.parliament.uk)



From: The Chair of the Committee

Rt Hon Simon Hart MP  
Secretary of State for Wales  
Office of the Secretary of State for Wales  
[By Email]

8 February 2021

Dear Simon

As you will be aware, during a Committee evidence session [on 4 February](#), comments were made about issues facing pharmaceutical firms and the flow of pharmaceutical products between the UK and EU. In particular, one witness (Ian Price from the CBI) claimed that a pharmaceutical company manufacturing cancer drugs has had to relocate production from Wales to Dublin after two to three hundred consignments had to be destroyed after being 'blocked somewhere in the system in Europe'.

At this time more than ever, people need confidence about the flow of essential pharmaceutical products between the EU and UK. I therefore seek answers to the following questions:

1. Are you aware of the pharmaceutical company mentioned by Ian Price and of the alleged difficulties they have experienced in exporting goods to the EU?
  - If so, what discussions have you held with the firm and what assistance has been offered to them by the UK Government?
  - If not, what discussions have you had, or propose to have, with the pharmaceutical industry in Wales to investigate this claim?
2. Has the UK Government been informed about other instances of pharmaceutical firms experiencing issues importing or exporting products, including but not limited to cancer drugs, since 1 January?
  - (If yes) What discussions has the UK had with the EU to explore how these issues can be resolved?

Due to the importance of this issue, I would appreciate a response to the questions raised in this letter by 19 February.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Stephen Crabb'.

Rt Hon Stephen Crabb MP