

Rt. Hon Andy Burnham
No. 10 North
47 Lloyd Street, Manchester

21st September 2026

Dear Andy,

I hope you are well. I am writing to ask you to make sustainable hospice funding a national priority and to receive the Every Hospice Matters petition at Downing Street.

In the aftermath of the assisted dying vote, I believe we have a responsibility to fix the crisis facing palliative and end-of-life care. I have often spoken in Parliament about the funding pressures facing our local authorities and hospices, which are stripping communities of the care they desperately need. Community care is being cut to the bone, while too many people are spending their final days in hospital simply because the right care is not available at home. That cannot be considered genuine choice at the end of life.

I was in touch with Willowbrook Hospice in St Helens last year, and I have seen first-hand just how vital the hospice and its dedicated staff are to local families. Hospices like Willowbrook should not have to fight year after year for the funding they need to survive.

I therefore urge you to meet some of the families behind the Every Hospice Matters petition and make sustainable hospice funding a national priority. This is not about party politics. It is about ensuring that every person can access compassionate, high-quality care when they need it most.

Yours sincerely,

Marie Rimmer MP

M. E. Rimmer

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