Dear – MP Name–

– Include Street name, postcode, full name –

I’m writing to you today about an urgent issue that’s facing hundreds of people from a minority group of people in the city of Sheffield, as well as thousands nation-wide. Transgender adults are being forced to medically detransition by local GP practices, resulting in severe medical neglect of the transgender community.

This is not a new issue and has been ongoing for a year now. Adults who have been assessed and diagnosed through NHS pathways and have been receiving hormonal medication for years without issue, are now suddenly having their prescriptions stopped. It has **not** been cited that it is due to the medical safety of trans people. Many GP practices are claiming this is an ‘additional service outside of their expertise’ and that Gender Identity Clinics (GICs) should prescribe. Porterbrook Clinic is Sheffield’s GIC. GICs however, as a secondary care provider, have consistently stated that prescribing falls under the responsibility of GPs as the primary care provider.

Cisgender (non-trans) adults taking these hormones for hormone differences or menopause, are not having these medications removed from them. For them, it is not seen as too difficult for GPs to deal with. This is a case of wilful transphobia and medical neglect of the transgender community.

This medical neglect is dangerous for trans people, and is likely to cause huge impacts on trans peoples’ mental and physical health. Trans people who have undergone surgeries rely on HRT (hormone replacement therapy) for normal hormone function. Without access to HRT, transgender individuals can be at significant risk of medical harm. Those reliant on HRT for normal hormone function can be at severe of decreased bone density, cardiovascular issues and metabolic issues.

With increasing numbers of GP’s ceasing treatment, trans people in Sheffield and elsewhere are being left with nowhere to turn for their healthcare. Many trans people are left with little choice but to source hormones outside of the legitimate routes being denied to them. This puts trans people at increased risk, having to take hormones without the essential blood level monitoring that GPs provide.

Trans Actual, a national campaign group, published the results of a study in October 2024 outlining some of the reasons GP’s are refusing healthcare, and the impact on trans people. I have attached a copy of the findings to this email, as well as on the link below:

<https://transactual.org.uk/blog/2024/10/19/wave-of-refusal-to-care-for-trans-adults-by-doctors-linked-to-rcgp-guidance-bigotry-and-incompetence/>I urge you to take action in raising awareness of this issue and to advocate for the healthcare rights of minorities in your constituencies. GP’s need to be made aware of their obligations, and the local Integrated Care Board needs to be taking stronger action on this issue. This is a critical and deeply concerning time for transgender people, and your support could make a meaningful difference.

Yours sincerely,