



**Fleur Anderson**

Member of Parliament for Putney

House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA

Rt. Hon. Rishi Sunak MP  
Chancellor of the Exchequer  
HM Treasury  
1 Horse Guards Road  
London  
SW1A 2HQ  
United Kingdom

21 April 2020

Dear Chancellor,

### **Safeguarding the Future of Dental Surgeries**

I hope this letter finds you well.

Dentists across the country are deeply concerned that they will not resurface once this crisis has abated.

New evidence suggests that over three-quarters of dentists will receive no support from Government support schemes. In particular, many self-employed dentists earned just above the £50,000 threshold for support through the Self-Employed Income Support Scheme (SEISS). Dental practices are also not eligible for business rates relief and many do not qualify for a small business grant. This has left Dentists with no option but to apply for a Coronavirus Business Interruption Loan (CBIL). However, over 90% of applicants were unable to secure credit.

While some will get support from the NHS (which in many cases will not come close to covering their losses) those in private practices will not be able to access financial help.

With all routine care now suspended, over 70% of practices report they can only remain financially sustainable for 3 months or less. Approximately 1 in 5 estimate they can only survive the month. Moreover, less than a third estimate they will be placed to restore pre-pandemic levels of patient access.

Dentists are frontline health professionals providing a vital service to communities, and the whole sector is facing financial ruin. You have the power to prevent this by:

1. Raising the £50,000 cap on support through the SEISS
2. Intervening to ensuring easier access to the CBIL scheme
3. Extending business rates relief to all practices

I look forward to hearing from you.

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Yours sincerely,

Fleur Anderson

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**Member of Parliament for Putney, Roehampton and Southfields**

**And all here undersigned:**

Debbie Abrahams MP  
Rushanara Ali MP  
Tahir Ali MP  
Mike Amesbury MP  
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Clive Betts MP  
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