

Thursday 20th June 2024



*Thank you to the team at
Heath Pharmacy and Labour
PPC Kate Dearden.*



Potential Parliamentary Candidate (PPC) Visit!

Heath Pharmacy were pleased to host a visit from Labour candidate for Halifax, Kate Dearden. Kate came to hear more about the #SaveOurPharmacies Campaign which staff members were taking part in by wearing black for the day.

Whilst Kate was aware of the challenges faced by community pharmacy, she wasn't aware of how severe they were and was keen to hear more about them. We discussed pharmacy funding in some detail and described how the funding package that we currently have has led to a 40% cut in real terms since 2015.

We also talked about the problems with medicine supplies and the situation we find ourselves in where we are quite often supplying medicines to patients at a financial loss to ourselves.

We described changes that could be made that would allow us to manage stock shortages in a more efficient way, rather than the current process we have now which also involves more work for GP practice teams.

We shared our experience of being a vital part of the NHS and how patients relied on being able to access us, without an appointment, when they needed help and advice.

One of the pharmacists who hosted the visit, Amanda Smith, said "We were really grateful to Kate for coming to visit us to hear more about community pharmacy. So many patients rely on us, and it is essential that the pharmacy network is funded sustainably in the future. We provide healthcare on the high street and really are at the heart of our communities."