

**TOM PURSGLOVE MP**  
CORBY & EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

2<sup>nd</sup> March 2021

*Dear Constance,*

**RE: NHS FFP3 MASKS TO FRONTLINE HEALTHCARE WORKERS.**

Thank you for your recent correspondence in respect of your concerns regarding safe and effective personal protective equipment (PPE) for frontline healthcare workers.

I would like to reassure you that continuing to ensure our frontline staff are properly protected is of paramount importance to me, Ministers, and to my colleagues of all parties in Parliament.

I am encouraged that over 7 billion items of PPE have been delivered since the start of the outbreak to 58,000 health and social care settings. Almost 28 billion items of PPE have been ordered overall from United Kingdom based manufacturers and international partners to provide a continuous supply and the Government is confident in the stocks and sources of supply of PPE to meet the needs of health and social care over the coming months.

FFP3 face masks are designed for use when carrying out potentially infectious aerosol generating procedures. Risk assessments in the workplace establish when different PPE is appropriate - for example, FFP2 respirators may be more appropriate and deliver the required level of safety for the care a member of staff is delivering, and FFP3 masks are not always necessary. I know that the Government has worked with the NHS and with a range of suppliers to ensure that health and social care facilities have plenty of PPE of the correct standard.

Rest assured that I will continue to monitor this issue closely moving forward and will raise your concerns in my internal conversations with my ministerial colleagues.

Once again, thank you for having taken the time to contact me and if I can ever be of any further assistance to you then please do not hesitate to contact me again.

With best wishes,

*With best wishes,*  
A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Tom'.

**TOM PURSGLOVE MP**  
**MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT**  
**CORBY & EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE**