**BDCC Councillors - Template Letter to Local MSPs**

**Subject**: Urgent Action Needed to Support GP Services in Midlothian

Dear [MSP Name],

I am writing on behalf of the Bonnyrigg & District Community Council to express our deep concern about the ongoing crisis facing GP services in our area.

Practices such as Strathesk Medical Practice are reporting an inability to hire new GPs, rising running costs, and reduced service capacity. Despite the Scottish Government’s commitments to increase GP numbers and improve community healthcare, local patients are experiencing longer waits, fewer appointments, and reduced access to essential services.

We urge you, as our elected representative, to:

* Press the Scottish Government to fully fund GP practices, including covering national insurance increases and facility charges.
* Reinstate transitional payments where contracts have not been fulfilled.
* Ensure that general practice receives a fair share of NHS investment – including IT upgrades, staffing support, and facilities improvement.

Our community stands ready to work constructively with all levels of government to protect local healthcare. We would welcome your support and ask that you raise this matter in Parliament and with the Health Secretary directly.

Sincerely,

[Your Name]

On behalf of Bonnyrigg & District Community Council

[Contact details]