

Richard Burden MP



HOUSE OF COMMONS, LONDON, SW1A 0AA

### **Cannabis for medicinal purposes**

Thank you to everyone who has contacted me about the Legislation of Cannabis (Medicinal Purposes) Bill.

The reform of law on Cannabis is a far from simple issue. I have always been sympathetic to a reform of the law on Cannabis and I do believe that the current approach does not work. To me this underlines why cannabis laws in the UK need a thorough evidence-based review.

Earlier this year, I wrote to the Home Secretary in relation to the use of cannabis for medicinal purposes. In this letter I raised the case of Alfie Dingley which I believe highlights the powerful compassionate case for medical marijuana to alleviate suffering and the need for a thorough evidence-based review of UK's current drug laws, with particular attention being paid to the use of cannabis for medicinal purposes.

The Bill is a long way down the Parliamentary timetable and it is therefore highly unlikely to come up for debate. However, [last month Labour's Shadow Home Secretary Dianne Abbott announced](#) that a Labour Government would allow the legal prescription of cannabis oil for medical purposes as well as reviewing drugs policy to address all issues of public health. Although we are not in Government currently to implement this policy, we will continue to call for the legal prescription of cannabis oil for medical purposes.

Thanks again to everyone who has contacted me about this issue.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Richard Burden'.

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