

PAULINE LATHAM OBE MP

Working hard for Mid Derbyshire



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

Friday, 23rd February 2018

Dear Mr Holyoake

Thank you for contacting me about the European Atomic Energy Community (Euratom) and am sorry to hear of your diagnosis.

As I understand, leaving Euratom is a result of the decision to leave the European Union as they are uniquely legally joined. I am reassured, however, that the UK will continue to support this organisation and will seek continuity of co-operation and standards. This includes the wish to maintain the UK's mutually successful civil nuclear co-operation with the European Union.

Rest assured, the UK remains entirely committed to the highest standards of nuclear safety, safeguards and support for the industry. The Government's aim is to establish the UK's own nuclear safeguards regime, using the body that already regulates nuclear security and safety, the Office for Nuclear Regulation. To do that, it is introducing legislation through the Nuclear Safeguards Bill this Parliament.

I am also assured that the collaboration between scientists and those in the nuclear sector is one of the important aspects of the continued co-operation that the Government wants and intends to see continued. The intention has been outlined very clearly in the Industrial Strategy to support the scientific community and to build as much support for it as it can after we leave the European Union. That is why the UK will negotiate with the aim of creating a mechanism that will allow vital collaborative research to continue.



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I do not believe that leaving Euratom will have any adverse effect on the supply of medical radio-isotopes. Contrary to what has been in some reports, medical radio-isotopes are not classed as special fissile material and are not subject to nuclear safeguards. Therefore, the UK's ability to import medical isotopes from Europe and the rest of the world will not be affected.

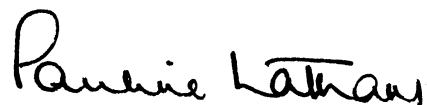
The UK is fully committed to continuing the close working relationship with our European partners, and as part of the negotiations the Government will discuss with the EU and Member States how best to continue cooperation in the field of medicines regulation (including with the European Medicines Agency).

Our aim is to ensure that patients in the UK and across the EU continue to be able to access the best and most innovative medicines, and be assured that their safety is protected through the strongest regulatory framework and sharing of data.

Further information on my views on a range of issues can be found on my website: www.paulinelatham.co.uk/campaigns. Please note that I do not sign EDMs and the reasons for this are explained here: www.paulinelatham.co.uk/early-day-motions.

Thank you again for taking the time to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pauline Latham". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Pauline Latham OBE MP