

Prof Peter Clark  
Chair, Cancer Drug Fund  
C/O Clatterbridge Hospital

27<sup>th</sup> August 2014

Dear Professor Clark

**Cancer Drugs Fund**

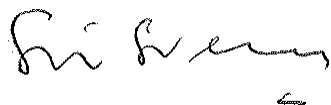
Thank you for your letter of yesterday's date proposing modifications to the operation of the Cancer Drugs Fund (CDF).

As you rightly say, the CDF has since its inception successfully enabled the funding of new cancer medicines for tens of thousands of patients in England. NHS England wants to build on that success by expanding funding again this year to enable cancer patients to access innovative effective new treatments.

To that end I am writing to confirm NHS England's agreement to your proposals, including a 40% increase in the CDF budget to £280 million for 2014/15. We also concur with your suggested approach to ensuring that within this expanded funding, medicines being approved provide maximum benefits to patients, and that your reimbursement methodology incentivises responsible pricing by applicant pharmaceutical companies.

Alongside the immediate next steps you will be taking, I would invite you also now to work with NICE, patient groups, and the ABPI to develop future options for ensuring alignment between the important and distinctive work of the CDF and NICE. I am therefore also copying this letter to Sir Andrew Dillon at NICE.

Yours sincerely



**Simon Stevens**  
**CEO, NHS England**