[your address details]

[full name of your MP, followed by ‘MP’]
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

[date]

Dear [MP]

**Covid-19 Public Inquiry: Federation of Ethnic Minority Healthcare Organisations**

Thank you for your letter dated [insert date]. I appreciate you taking the time to respond to my concerns.

As you will be aware, Baroness Hallett published her report and recommended changes to the draft terms of reference (“TOR”) following the public consultation on 12 May. We have reviewed her response, and as a group we are encouraged by her recommendation that the TOR “*be reframed to put possible inequalities at its forefront so that investigation into any unequal impacts of the pandemic runs through the whole Inquiry. This important recommendation will ensure the Inquiry is inclusive in its approach*.”

In particular, she suggests that the wording of the TOR regarding protected characteristics be amended to make it the “*overarching aim of the Inquiry*” and that this wording “*should appear in the introductory section of the Terms of Reference, in order to underline its importance*.” She also highlights that “*We [the Inquiry] will examine issues relating to inequalities as they arise in our work, and will consider where the impact is even greater for people experiencing multiple inequalities*.”

These are matters on which FEMHO has been tirelessly advocating so we are heartened and grateful that they have been heard and taken on board by Baroness Hallett. We are motivated by a concern that the types of outcomes experienced by ethnic minority healthcare workers and communities raise serious questions about systemic underlying health inequalities. We see the chair’s response as a clear recognition of our concerns, and of how this issue is a matter of public importance.

As we await the Prime Minister’s response to Baroness Hallett’s recommendations, we now turn our concern towards ensuring that he accepts the chair’s recommendations in full.

I kindly urge you once again to write to the Prime Minister, encouraging him to:

1. Accept the chair’s recommendations in full.
2. Ensure that the panel appointed to lead the Inquiry alongside Baroness Hallett have the necessary skills and understanding to properly investigate and assess the issue of inequalities, as advised by the chair.
3. Ensure that FEMHO are given CP status such that they can actively participate in the Inquiry, ensuring that these issues are properly investigated and addressed and that suitable recommendations are made to improve things for the future.

I thank you once again for your continued support of our issue. Please do not hesitate to get in touch with any questions you may have.

I look forward to hearing from you.

[your name and email address if desired]