

# Jonathan Ashworth responds to the decision to relocate the European Medicines Agency away from London

**Jonathan**

**Ashworth MP, Labour's Shadow Health Secretary**, responding to the European Council's decision to relocate the European Medicines Agency from London to Amsterdam, said:

"This decision is extremely disappointing. Labour has been clear all along that Britain should seek to maintain membership of the European Medicines Agency.

"Not only will this relocation see the loss of almost 900 jobs from London, but Britain's reputation as a world leader in the life sciences is under serious threat and patients will likely suffer from longer waits for new medicines.

"Ministers must urgently reassure the House that the UK will not become a second-tier market as a result of their reckless handling of Brexit, and that the best possible deal for patients and staff remains at the forefront of negotiations."