

Chris Bryant MP, Member of Parliament for the Rhondda



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

Monday 15th November 2021

Rt Hon Boris Johnson MP
Prime Minister
10 Downing Street

Dear Prime Minister,

Acquired Brain Injury Private Members Bill

1.4 million people are living with Acquired Brain Injury in the UK. It is a hidden epidemic. It affects people in every town and village. It has implications for armed forces veterans, for rugby players and cyclists, for children in school and college, for doctors and social care workers, for probation workers, for prisoners, for homebuilders, for local authorities and victims of domestic abuse. Virtually every department of government has a duty to discharge in this field – but if they could all work together in a coherent and strategic way they could improve outcomes for millions of families and make significant savings.

Sadly, despite all the good intentions of individual ministers and civil servants, there is still no national strategy on Acquired Brain Injury.

On 3 December the Commons will debate the Acquired Brain Injury Bill, presented on a cross-party basis by Chris Bryant MP. This is based on the Autism Act 2008, which was introduced by Dame Cheryl Gillan, and has radically improved support for those with autism across the UK.

Like the Autism Act, the Acquired Brain Injury Bill does not place an onerous duty on government. It doesn't even demand additional spending. It simply requires the Government to have an Acquired Brain Injury strategy, to publish it and to review it. Some say there is no need to put this in statute. But a statutory obligation would ensure all departments cooperate fully, it would enable much greater cross-departmental working, it would ensure long-term collaboration and it would release additional benefits to the many families who are living with brain injury.

We urge you to support the Bill. Thousands of families want to see a UK strategy put in place as soon as possible. The many charities that work in this field, including the UK Acquired Brain Injury Forum, Headway, The Disabilities Trust, The Children's Trust and the Child Brain Injury Trust are pushing for this, too.

This is not just a matter for the Department of Health and Social Care. It is a matter for the whole of government, through from soldiers injured in explosions to rugby players suffering multiple concussions, children with carbon monoxide poisoning and people of every age in car crashes or living with stroke.

Surely it is time we brought together a national strategy to prevent these injuries where possible and give people back their quality of life?

We look forward to your response.

Chris Bryant MP
Rt Hon Sir John Hayes MP
Rt Hon Andrew Mitchell MP
Tracey Crouch MP
Rt Hon Robert Buckland MP
Liz Twist MP
Dr Lisa Cameron MP

Barbara Keeley MP
Alex Cunningham MP
Alex Davies-Jones MP
Alex Norris MP
Alyn Smith MP
Andy McDonald MP
Angela Eagle MP
Rt Hon Angela Rayner MP
Anna McMorrin MP
Aspana Begum MP
Bambos Charalambous MP
Barry Sheerman MP
Rt Hon Ben Bradshaw MP
Ben Lake MP
Beth Winter MP
Caroline Dinenage MP
Caroline Lucas MP
Rt Hon Caroline Nokes MP
Carolyn Harris MP
Catherine West MP
Chris Elmore MP
Chris Evans MP
Christina Rees MP
Christine Jardine MP
Claire Hanna MP
Clive Betts MP
Daisy Cooper MP
Rt Hon Dame Diana Johnson MP
Dan Jarvis MP
Darren Jones MP
Rt Hon David Lammy MP
Debbie Abrahams MP
Rt Hon Sir Edward Leigh MP
Rt Hon Emily Thornberry MP
Emma Lewell-Buck MP
Geraint Davies MP
Gerald Jones MP
Rt Hon Harriet Harman QC MP
Henry Smith MP
Rt Hon Hilary Benn MP
Holly Lynch MP
Rt Hon Iain Duncan Smith MP
Ian Lavery MP
Ian Murray MP
Jamie Stone MP
Jeff Smith MP

Jess Phillips MP
Rt Hon Jonathan Ashworth MP
Jonathan Reynolds MP
Rt Hon Dr Julian Lewis MP
Justine Madders MP
Karl Turner MP
Kate Green MP
Kevin Brennan MP
Kim Johnson MP
Kim Leadbeater MP
Lilian Greenwood MP
Liz Kendall MP
Lyn Brown MP
Rt Hon Dame Margaret Hodge MP
Margaret Ferrier MP
Maria Eagle MP
Mark Pawsey MP
Rt Hon Mark Tami MP
Marsha de Cordova MP
Neale Hanvey MP
Peter Kyle MP
Preet Kaur Gill MP
Rachel Hopkins MP
Richard Burgon MP
Rosie Cooper MP
Ruth Jones MP
Sharon Hodgson MP
Siobhain McDonagh MP
Stella Creasy MP
Stephanie Peacock MP
Rt Hon Stephen Crabb MP
Stephen Kinnock MP
Stephen Morgan MP
Rt Hon Stephen Timms MP
Taiwo Owatemi MP
Tonia Antoniazzi MP
Tulip Siddiq MP
Vicky Foxcroft MP
Wendy Chamberlain MP
Wes Streeting MP

United Kingdom Acquired Brain Injury Forum

Dr Andrew Bateman, Chair, United Kingdom Acquired Brain Injury Forum
Jackie Burt, MBE, Chair Brain Injury Social Work Group
Lesley Pope, Chair, Independent Neurorehabilitation Providers Alliance
Petrina Sill, CEO, Eden Dora Trust for Children with Encephalitis
Karen Burgin, Chair, Case Managers Society of the United Kingdom
Peter Freeman, Trustee of UKABIF and parent of an ABI survivor
Georgina Carr, CEO, The Neurological Alliance
Dr Adrian James, President, Royal College of Psychiatrists
Katherine Carpenter, The British Psychological Society, Chair, BPS Division of Neuropsychology, Consultant Clinical Neuropsychologist
JPS Burn DM FRCP, Consultant Rehabilitation & Brain Injury University Hospitals Dorset, President British Society of Rehabilitation Medicine
Professor Karen Middleton CBE FCSP MA, Chief Executive of The Chartered Society of Physiotherapy, Visiting Professor, Leeds Beckett University
Adine Adonis, Chair, Association of Chartered Physiotherapists in Neurology
Vicki Gilman, Chair, British Association of Brain Injury Case Managers
Dr Najma Khan-Bourne, Consultant Clinical Neuropsychologist, Chair of the Policy Unit of the DoN, British Psychology Society
Dr Sian Rees, The SHIPS Project
Claire Hancock, Case Manager and Occupational Therapist, Claire Hancock Case Management
Professor Jane Powell, CEO, Cognivate Emeritus, Professor of Psychology, University of Surrey
Zoe Leigh, NeuroHealth Case Management Services
Adam White, Concussion Legacy Foundation UK
Amanda Penny, Link Case Management
Neresia Osbourne, Endeavour Life Coaching, Second Chance Headway, Wakefield
The National Acquired Brain Injury in Learning and Education Syndicate
PAUL for Brain Injury Recovery
The Rt Hon Tom Balchin, The ARNI Institute & Charity for Stroke Survivors
JMW Solicitors LLP
Karen Burgin Ltd
FBC Manby Bowdler LLP
National Star College, Cheltenham
Lisa Barnes RGN, Independent Registered General Nurse, Care Expert and Clinical Case Manager
Novo Therapy & Care Ltd
Steve Morgan, Practice Based Evidence
Jen Wildman, Director and Lead Case Manager
Wildman Case Management Ltd
Sue Stoten, Managing Director / Clinical Director for Adult Services
Anglia Case Management
Jo Evans, Managing Director, Unite Professionals Ltd
Karen Warren, Case Manager, Occupational Therapist BSc (Hons)
Independent Living Solutions
Hilary Dicks, Partner, Creative Case Solutions
Samantha Barker, Business / Clinical Manager, Specialist Occupational Therapist
Northern Case Management
Paul Hallinan, Adapt-e Limited
Dr. Tara Rado, Consultant Clinical Psychologist/Director
Psychologia Ltd.
Ashtons Legal
Active Case Management
Anna Watkiss MSc HCPC Registered Psychologist, Clinical Lead

TBL · Expert Witness · Case Management · Rehabilitation Services
Louise Hawkley MSc Rehabilitation (Neuro) BSc (Hons) OT
Specialist Neuro Rehabilitation Case Manager
Ruth Wright, Partner, Head of Court of Protection Department Potter Rees Dolan
Sophie Greengrass on behalf of Three Case Management
Maureen Lindsay, BSc Hons; Dip SW; Social Work England reg. Case Manager, Reach Case Management
Iain Anderson, Dip/SW HE, Brain Injury Case Manager, Head First LLP
James Puttick, Direct Healthcare Solutions Ltd
Adele Moore, Brain Injury Case Manager, Head First LLP
Andrew Harding, Hugh James
Jo Throp, Krysalis Neuro Occupational Therapy 3 Hub
Moore Barlow, The Criminal Justice Acquired Brain Injury Interest Group
Professor Huw Williams, University of Exeter
Leyla Ziyal, Accent Psychology
Alison Taylor, Frenkel Topping Group
Judith Carlton, Emerald Phoenix Ltd
Andrew Haines AIPEM, Younique Healthcare
Emma Way Associates

Headway

Peter McCabe, Chief Executive, Headway - the brain injury association
Anna McEwen, CEO, Headway East London
John Archer, CEO, Headway Hertfordshire
Ruth Wells, CEO, Headway Devon
Kevin Thomas, Chair, Headway Carmarthenshire
Joanne Dallas, Service Manager, Headway Portsmouth & SE Hampshire
Jane Clarke, Chair, Headway South Bucks
Sue Clements, CEO, Headway Cambridgeshire
Helen Shaw, Secretary, Headway South Cumbria
Rebecca Pearce, CEO, Headway Cardiff and South East Wales
Christine Wells, Secretary, Headway Scunthorpe
Alistair McDonald, Chair, Headway Tyneside
Matthew Garson, Headway Blackburn with Darwen, Hyndburn & Ribble Valley
Sharlene Featherston, Second Chance ABI therapy centre, Wakefield
Michael Kitching, CEO, Headway Norfolk and Waveney
Dawn Perry, Group Leader, Headway Tamworth and Litchfield
Martin Pettingell, Chair, Headway Somerset
Caroline Massey, Chair, Headway South Powys
Claire Howard, Chair, Headway Isle of Wight
Ashwini Kamath, Chair, Headway Warrington
Ali Hendley, CEO, Headway Gloucestershire
Colin Shieff, Chair, Headway North London
Dr Keith Jenkins, Chair, Headway East Northants
Jane Weston, CEO, Headway Swindon
John Ling, Chair, Headway South East London North West Kent
Charlotte Foster, Chair, Headway Bradford
Joyce Cattanach, Development Officer, Headway East Lothian
Evelyn McNair, Chair, Headway Ayrshire
Ewan Bain, Chair, Headway Rotherham
Ann-Marie Smith, Headway Lincolnshire
Sonja Freebody, CEO, Headway Surrey
Sarah Patten, Secretary, Headway York
Shane Booth, Brain Injury Survivor, Headway North Cumbria

The Disabilities Trust

Irene Sobowale, CEO, The Disabilities Trust
Vivienne Francis, Director of Communications and the Foundation, The Disabilities Trust
Victoria Pilkington, Director of Governance and QA, The Disabilities Trust
Graham Fisher, Director of Digital, The Disabilities Trust
Keeley Mitchell, Director of Brain Injury Operations, The Disabilities Trust
Dr. Rudi Coetzer, Clinical Director, The Disabilities Trust
Lynsey Robertson, Director of Business Development, The Disabilities Trust
Naomi Carey, Director of People and Organisation Development, The Disabilities Trust
Bill Chidgey, Director of Corporate Services, The Disabilities Trust
Dr Emily Glorney, Senior Lecturer and Chartered Forensic Psychologist, Royal Holloway
Janet Dalrymple, CEO, Safer Places
Sam Cauldwell, Hospital Independent Domestic Violence Advocate – Womens Aid
Peter Dawson, Director, Prison Reform Trust
Vivienne Z, Lived Experience / Advocate
Diana Fawcett, CEO, Victim Support
Claire Huberstey, CEO, One Small Thing.

Child Brain Injury Trust

Lisa Turan, CEO, Child Brain Injury Trust
Petrina Sill, Chief Executive Officer for the Eden Dora Trust for children with Encephalitis
Dave Robinson, parent of a child with ABI
Mo Fisher, parent of a child with ABI
Joanna Shakespeare, parent of a child with ABI
Owen Shakespeare, patient with ABI
Yvonne Bingham, parent of a child with ABI
Ben Bingham, patient with ABI
Amy Ali, parent of child with ABI
Muhammad Imran Ali, parent of child with ABI
Victoria Lyon, patient with ABI
Judith Lyon, parent of a child with ABI
Howard Lyon, parent of a child with ABI
Abi Roberts-Doré, parent of a child with ABI
Lee Roberts-Doré, parent of a child with ABI
Marie Jones, relative of a patient with ABI
Sylvia Gordon, relative of a patient with ABI
Tracy & Nigel Doré, relative of a patient with ABI
Emily Gordon, relative of a patient with ABI
Vanessa Armstrong, relative of a patient with ABI
Dr Hannah Ranaldi, relative of a patient with ABI
Elizabeth & Jamie Gordon, relative of a patient with ABI
Kamari Parker, patient with ABI
Cody Gilman, foster carer for a person with ABI
Claire Allcock, foster carer for a person with ABI
David Galloway: Chair, Northern Ireland Neurological Charities Alliance
Gerard Anderson, Head of Brain Injury Services
Stephanie Bremner, Head of Finance, HR & Administration
Louise Wilkinson, Head of Information & Learning
Rachel Ritter, Head of Corporate Partnerships
Danielle Gibson, Head of Fundraising & Marketing

The Children's Trust

Dalton Leong, Chief Executive, The Children's Trust

Dr Gemma Costello, Head of Psychosocial Services, The Children's Trust

Dr Jenny Jim, Consultant Psychologist, The Children's Trust

Maria Coyle, Content Manager, The Children's Trust

Sotanis Thomas, parent of a child with ABI

Daniel Windle, parent of a child with ABI

Fiona McKie, Senior VP Digital Operations & parent of a young person with an ABI

Jason and Yasmin Savage, parents of a young person with ABI

Laura Hindle, mum to a child with ABI

Tahirah De Aguiar Chaves, mum to a child with ABI

Sarah Baker, Clinical Governance & Safeguarding Committee, Whistleblowing & Safeguarding Leads

Denise Matthams, Clinical Governance & Safeguarding, Educational Governance and Remuneration Committees

Anne Walker, Clinical Governance & Safeguarding, Finance, Fundraising & General Purposes and Audit & Risk Committees

Andrew Pemberton, Managing Director of Cardinal Management

Brenda Milligan, Mum to young person with ABI

Joanna Jacobs, Brain Injury Hub Manager

Nicola Smith, Director of Strategy & Transformation, The Children's Trust

Sharon Tuppeny, Head of Therapy – Rehabilitation, The Children's Trust