



ALL PARTY PARLIAMENTARY GROUP
ON CANCER

All Party Parliamentary Group on Cancer Meeting minutes

Wednesday 18 May 2016, 9.30am-10.30am, Room O, Portcullis House

Present:

John Baron MP
Mark Durkan MP
Nic Dakin MP
David Tredinnick MP
Baroness Finlay
Jo Churchill MP
Jim Shannon MP
Danny Kinahan MP
Maria Caulfield MP

Apologies:

Baroness Masham
Mark Durkan MP
Nic Dakin MP
Albert Owen MP

Secretariat:

Rebecca Leech, Macmillan Cancer Support
Ayesha Ahmed, Macmillan Cancer Support

Other:

John Stewart, NHS England
Preth Rao, Pancreatic Cancer UK
Johnny Savage, Prostate Cancer UK
Meindert Boyson, NICE
Shaun Dunbabin, Health Policy
Leah Miller, Pancreatic Cancer UK?
Jenny Macleod, Rarer Cancers Foundation
Sally Greenbrook, Breast Cancer Now
Isabel Wilkinson, Teenage Cancer Trust
Teresa-Rae Morton, Cancer Research UK

1. Welcome and apologies

Chairman John Baron MP welcomed all attendees including John Stewart from NHS England. Due to prior commitment, John Baron mentioned he would have to excuse himself for the last part of the meeting and Nic Dakin MP would chair the meeting.

John Baron MP also asked to put on record his thanks to the Officers and Members of the Group who had supported the Group over the last few years.

2. Election of Officers

The following MPs/Peers were elected as Officers, and John Baron was re-elected Chairman with no objections from the Group:

- John Baron (Chairman)
- Nic Dakin (Vice Chair)
- Albert Owen (Vice Chair)
- Mark Durkan (Vice Chair)
- Baroness Masham (Vice Chair)
- Baroness Morgan (Vice Chair)
- Jim Shannon (Vice Chair)
- Jo Churchill (Vice Chair)
- David Tredinnick (Vice Chair)
- Baroness Finlay (Vice Chair)

3. John Baron updated the Group on the APPGC's activity and plans for 2016:

APPGC Inquiry

- The APPGC launched an inquiry into the England Cancer Strategy and the call for written evidence is now open. Cally Palmer and Sir Harpal Kumar have agreed to present oral evidence taking place on the 4th July.
- John is in discussion with the Minister regarding a submission to the inquiry.
- All Officers are welcome to be part of the inquiry and Macmillan as the Secretariat will put together a briefing paper and can send this ahead of time.
- John Baron noted that the inquiry is genuine wish to hear more about the progress of the England Cancer Strategy since its publication last year and should hopefully be useful for all.

Summer Reception

- John Baron encouraged the Group to spread the word about the APPGC annual Summer Reception taking place on July 6th.
- The Reception will focus on a variety of things including the success of CCG one-year cancer survival rates.
- John Baron posed a possible key theme for the Reception which would recognise those CCG's who have most improved in their survival rates, based on the ONS figures as used by NHS England, and celebrate their success by presenting a certificate or award of some kind. MPs of those CCGs would be invited to receive the award on behalf of the top 10 or top 20 CCGs.
- John noted that the APPGC had a responsibility to reach out to CCG's.
- The Officers discussed some of the risks around this, including media focusing on CCG's who weren't improving, issues with data and the need to ensure that any awards reflected reality.
- Nic Darkin MP suggested the top 10 or 20 improved CCG data should first be tested and investigate the outcomes before committing.
- John Baron and other Officers agreed that the data for the top 10-20 most improved CCGs should be looked at, and findings reported back to the Officers before a final decision is made.

- It was also noted that there should be a focus on one year survival in the other Home Nations.

1 year survival pack

- An email containing a briefing, draft letter and press release was sent to all colleagues.
- John has agreed to top and tail over 600 hard copies of letters to give to colleagues, including the briefings and press releases.
- Baroness Finlay suggested that these letters be sent to MPs representing the devolved nations so they are able to send these to their respective health boards.
- Rebecca and Ayesha to find UK wide figures to refer to these in the hardcopy letter.

4. AOB

- David Tredinnick MP spoke about complementary medicines. John Baron asked him to give a short update at the next Officer's meeting.
- Baroness Finlay spoke about the increased evidence regarding early integrated palliative care and asked for an update for the Group at some point during the year. John suggested questions regarding the entire cancer pathway will be discussed during the APPGC inquiry.
- Jo Churchill MP mentioned the importance of data and how it will help to reach out to patient groups.
- John Baron ended by suggesting a general debate on the floor on cancer in the two week period Parliament reconvenes following summer recess. He mentioned cancer specific All-Party Groups coming together for this, and also noted the diary that the joint APPGs feed into. The Secretariat will share a copy of this along with the minutes of to Officers.

5. External Speaker

Nic Dakin MP introduced John Stewart, Senior Responsible Officer for the Cancer Drugs Fund (CDF) from NHS England and Meindert Boyson from NICE. John presented an update on the standard operating procedure for the CDF and how they will be carrying out further engagement work with charities and industry.

Q&A and discussion

- John gave an update on the ongoing appraisal of the CDF.
- John mentioned that NICE will be reconsidering all drugs on the CDF and they are in the early stages of seeing Pharmaceuticals shift on pricing which is encouraging.
- Baroness Morgan voiced her concern that patients in England have less access to modern treatments that are available in Europe and the rest of the world. She also asked what would happen to those drugs that have already been rejected by NICE.
- John answered stating every drug will go under reconsideration.
- The issue of NHS England flexibility and getting a right balance between pricing and best value for patients was raised and Jo Churchill and others asked how the APPGC could help, whether that be through a letter or a meeting with Department of Health.
- Nic Dakin asked the Secretariat to look at putting together a letter to

NHS England and NICE on the issue, following the responses to the consultation submitted by the APPGs.

6. Close