



ALL PARTY PARLIAMENTARY GROUP  
ON CANCER

# All Party Parliamentary Group on Cancer AGM minutes

Tuesday 16 June 2015, 10.00am-11.00am, Room Q, Portcullis House

**Present:**

John Baron MP  
Nic Dakin MP  
Grahame Morris MP  
Mark Durkan MP  
Albert Owen MP  
Jack Lopresti MP  
Margaret Ritchie MP  
David Treddinick MP  
Danny Kinahan MP

**Apologies:**

Baroness Finlay  
Baroness Morgan  
Baroness Masham  
Guto Bebb MP  
James Cartlidge MP  
Conor McGinn MP  
Lord O'Neill of Clackmannan  
Jo Churchill MP

**Parliamentary researchers:**

Ben Yates (BY), Parliamentary Researcher

**Secretariat:**

Rebecca Leech, Macmillan Cancer Support  
Lucy Schonegevel, Macmillan Cancer Support  
Charlotte Morris, Macmillan Cancer Support

**Guests:**

Juliet Bouverie, Director of Services and  
Influencing, Macmillan Cancer Support

1.	<b>Welcome and apologies</b>
2.	<b>Presentation from Juliet Bouverie, Director of Services and Influencing, Macmillan Cancer Support</b>  Juliet Bouverie gave a presentation on the current cancer policy landscape. She gave an overview of the changing story of cancer including the fact that our one and five year survival rates still lag behind our European counterparts, and the fact that many more people were now living with the consequences of cancer treatment.  She also gave an update on what had happened in cancer services in the last two years, raising concerns about the resourcing for cancer at a national level, the fragmentation of cancer commissioning and general loss of momentum. However, she welcomed the renewed focus on cancer as a strategic priority for NHS England, and the development of the new cancer strategy.  She finished by outlining Macmillan's priorities for the cancer strategy which are focused on ensuring that the cancer strategy accounts for the whole cancer pathway.

	<p>She also emphasised that on end of life Macmillan agree with all of the recommendations of the Choice Review. She highlighted the importance of patient experience and the need to ensure that it has parity of esteem with clinical outcomes and safety.</p> <p>Nic Dakin raised an issue that he had experienced with a constituent where a number of agencies involved in the patient’s palliative care had not been communicating. Juliet said that this was a common issue, and advised that every patient should have a named key worker who should be able to help resolve these problems. She advised that the patient should call Macmillan if problems continued.</p> <p>Albert Owen asked if Macmillan ever look at the health systems in the devolved nations to share best practice. Juliet said that as a UK wide organisation Macmillan are based in all of the devolved nations and that ensuring good quality care and outcomes was equally important in all areas of the UK. She also mentioned Macmillan’s ‘communities of practice’ where clinicians share experience across boundaries and borders.</p> <p>Grahame Morris thanked Juliet for her presentation and asked about access to treatment, particularly SABR which is available in a number of other countries. Juliet emphasised the problems currently around access to data, which includes data about the effectiveness of various treatments. She also referenced the international cancer benchmarking project which is looking at data from across the world to examine why some countries are world leading.</p> <p>David Tredinnick noted that alternative medicine can sometimes be effective in dealing with the consequences of treatment. Juliet said that Macmillan endorses orthodox over alternative medicines, although some treatments such as acupuncture can be helpful in complimenting orthodox treatments.</p>
<p><b>2.</b></p>	<p><b>Overview of the All Party Parliamentary Group on Cancer</b></p> <p>John Baron gave an overview of the work of the APPGC. He said that the group had been focused particularly on survival rates, particularly given the fact that one and five year survival rates in this country lag significantly behind the best in Europe.</p> <p>He outlined the APPGC’s campaign to increase accountability for one year survival rates at a local level by ensuring that an indicator was included in the relevant accountability frameworks, including the Delivery Dashboard, which is the top tier of accountability for Clinical Commissioning Groups.</p> <p>He highlighted that the APPG will be having a summer reception, addressed by the Cancer Minister, Jane Ellison and that this would be a platform to communicate the policy change and ensure that focus on the one year survival rates remains high. He also mentioned the APPGC’s other key campaign areas including age discrimination, cancer patient experience and proton beam therapy.</p> <p>He also highlighted Britain Against Cancer, the APPGC’s annual conference, which has previously been addressed by the Secretary of State and Shadow Secretary of State and NHS England Chief Executive, Simon Stevens.</p> <p>A discussion was held on priorities for the Group:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grahame Morris MP said that he would like to see the Group focus on innovation, not just in early diagnosis but in treatment as well. John Baron</li> </ul>

	<p>suggested that this could be a key theme for Britain Against Cancer.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• David Tredinnick said he would like to have a meeting themed on patient support. Grahame Morris emphasised that the APPG should only look at things where there is a clear evidence base. John Baron emphasised that all of the APPG’s work was evidence based.</li> <li>• Albert Owen said that he would like to see the Group getting out into the community by doing visits, potentially to a children’s cancer centre. John Baron suggested putting together a programme of visits and highlighted his visit earlier this year to the Francis Crick Institute.</li> <li>• Daniel Kinan highlighted that there was a technology company in his constituency who he would like to get in to talk to the Group.</li> <li>• Margaret Ritchie said that she would like to have a focus on BRCA testing, and suggested getting a speaker in to talk about this.</li> <li>• Mark Durkan highlighted the importance of being joined up with what was happening in the devolved nations, and identifying any areas of common ground.</li> <li>• John Baron also updated the Group on the work that had been done with other cancer-related APPGs including the parliamentary debate in February.</li> </ul> <p><b>Actions:</b> RL to look at setting up another joint APPG meeting, look at organising a programme of visits outside of Parliament and to liaise with Officers with regards to having speakers at meetings.</p>
<p><b>3.</b></p>	<p><b>Election of Officers</b></p> <p>All Officers had indicated their intention to stand again for election. It was unanimously agreed to reappoint all Officers plus the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Albert Owen MP</li> <li>• David Tredinnick MP</li> <li>• Guto Bebb MP</li> <li>• Jo Churchill MP</li> </ul> <p>John Baron was unanimously re-elected as chairman. It was decided that the composition of the group would be as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Chair:</b> John Baron MP</li> <li>• <b>Vice-chairs:</b> Grahame M. Morris, Baroness Masham of Ilton, Baroness Morgan of Drefelin, Baroness Finlay of Llandaff, Nic Dakin, Albert Owen, David Tredinnick, Guto Bebb, Jo Churchill</li> </ul> <p><b>Actions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RL to register the result of the AGM and update the group’s Register entry by 7<sup>th</sup> July.</li> </ul>