

# How Macmillan Can Help You in Parliament



Briefing for: **New Members of Parliament**

Purpose: **To outline how Macmillan can assist your Parliamentary activities in Westminster**

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## Introduction

Macmillan appreciates the number of demands on an MP's time and resources. We understand that you and your team may sometimes need additional support when preparing for a debate, responding to a constituent's query or finding out more about cancer services in your constituency or across the UK.

Please do not hesitate to ask Macmillan's Public Affairs Team if you want to know more about how we can help you to improve the lives of people affected by cancer through your work in Parliament.

*"Macmillan Cancer Support is undoubtedly one of the nation's leading cancer charities. The information and guidance they offer around the issues and challenges faced by people affected by cancer is outstanding and I would urge Parliamentarians with an interest in cancer care and services to contact the Public Affairs team at Macmillan." **John Baron MP***

## What sort of assistance can we provide?

1. **Meeting in Parliament** – we are always happy to meet with MPs or members of your team at Westminster or elsewhere to update you on our campaigning activities, to talk about a specific issue or problem facing one of your constituents with cancer, or for any other advice or assistance we can provide.
2. **Lobbying relevant Ministers** – often you will have to raise issues with the relevant Minister. We are happy to provide logistical support for such meetings including drafting meeting requests, agendas and background briefings, pre-briefing civil servants, attendance and support at meetings and drafting post-meeting follow-up letters.
3. **Parliamentary briefings** – for each of our campaigns Macmillan creates briefings and information to inform MPs about the work we do to improve the lives of people affected by cancer. A number of our Parliamentary briefings are available on our 'one stop shop' for Parliamentarians

[www.macmillan.org.uk/parliament](http://www.macmillan.org.uk/parliament). We understand that on some occasions a more tailored briefing is needed and we are happy to assist.

4. **Cancer Matters** – Macmillan produces a twice yearly publication especially for Parliamentarians called *Cancer Matters* to help you understand the issues that matter to your constituents and to update you on Macmillan’s campaigning activities. You can read previous editions [here](#).
5. **Debates** – if you have secured a debate on cancer, we know the preparation work involved can be sizeable and that trying to get accurate and effective information can sometimes prove challenging. We can help draft speeches on cancer care issues or simply provide advice and guidance on the issues that matter. If you plan to interject during a debate, we can help you find the statements and statistics that will have the most impact.
6. **Parliamentary Questions** – if Macmillan is unable to provide you with an answer to a cancer care issue, we are happy to help you draft the right PQ to seek out the information you need. Should you wish to put pressure on a Minister to consider a specific matter affecting people living with and after cancer, Macmillan’s Public Affairs Team can work with your researchers to help you draft the right questions to ask.
7. **Queries from your constituents** – we have a number of resources to help you support your constituents affected by cancer as effectively as possible. For more information see the briefing *A short guide to supporting a constituent with cancer* or contact a member of the Public Affairs Team for more help.

**The Macmillan Public Affairs Team**

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