Dear **(INSERT NAME OF MP)**

Brain Injury is a public health challenge of vast but insufficiently recognised proportions. Brain Injury is a major cause of death and disability but

systems of care vary greatly, and disconnects exist in the chain of care. [[1]](#footnote-1)

**Over a million people in this country live with the consequences of traumatic brain injury, at a cost to the economy of around £15 billion a year[[2]](#footnote-2).**

To raise awareness of these issues and instigate changes in policy where necessary an All Party Parliamentary Group for Acquired Brain Injury has been established.

The objectives of the APPG are as follows:

* To raise awareness of ABI and seek improvements in support and services for people directly affected by ABI and also their families and carers
* To provide a voice for those who are not always heard by Ministers and MPs
* To be the main forum for ABI in Parliament, raising key issues across health, social care and welfare which all affect people living with ABI in the UK

The officers of the group include Chris Bryant (Chair) Carolyn Harris MP (Vice Chair), Chris Evans MP (Vice Chair), Paul Flynn MP (Vice Chair), Stephen Hammond MP (Vice Chair), Kevin Barron MP (Vice Chair), and Lord Ramsbotham (Treasurer).

**The group will hold an official launch meeting on Tuesday 28th November 2017 from 9-11am in Room C, 1 Parliament Street, London.**

The speakers include Professor David Menon, co-author of The Lancet – Neurology’s recent commission on Traumatic Brain Injury which was launched in the European Parliament; Dr John Etherington, who previously held the NHSE post of Clinical Director for Rehabilitation and Professor Diane Playford, Chair of the British Society for Rehabilitation Medicine.

Four roundtable meetings will follow to focus on key issues including access to rehabilitation, the links between brain injury and offending behaviour, the need to focus on brain injury in education and sport. Dates are to be confirmed.

We would therefore be most grateful if you would consider joining this APPG and attending the meeting on 28th November.

I attach an infographic for you, which gives a summary of the issues surrounding brain injury.

Please RSVP to Maria Finnerty Parliamentary Assistant to Chris Bryant, Member of Parliament for Rhondda maria.finnerty@parliament.uk

Yours sincerely.

1. # Traumatic brain injury: integrated approaches to improve prevention, clinical care, and research

   # The Lancet Neurology Published: November 6, 2017

   [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. # Traumatic brain injury and offending: An economic analysis Michael Parsonage Centre for Mental Health July 2016

   [↑](#footnote-ref-2)