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# Cancer52

## All Member Update

20th March 2017

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Dear All,

The All Party Parliamentary Group on Cancer (APPGC) is conducting an open discussion as to how best we, as a 'cancer community', can support and work with Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) to improve our one-year cancer survival rates – one of the few disease-specific outcome indicators in the NHS, which can most effectively be improved through earlier diagnosis.

**To launch this initiative, the APPGC is hosting a roundtable discussion on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March, 9am-11am, Room C, 1 Parliament Street.**

This event will be an opportunity for representatives from cancer charities to come together with the various cancer APPGs to discuss how we can all work to champion this issue. At the event, **we will consider the draft letter [below] to CCGs**, and will be asking attendees to add their name in support.

After a long campaign by the APPGC and the wider 'cancer community', since April 2015 CCGs have been held accountable by NHS England for their individual one-year figures. The letter offers dialogue and tangible assistance in what must be a combined effort between the CCGs, the Department of Health, the NHS across the UK, Parliament and its cancer APPGs to start closing the gap with international averages when it comes to our survival rates – thousands of lives are needlessly lost each year because we are failing to do so.

**If you would like to comment on the letter and/or add your organisation's name, please let us know by the end of Tuesday 21st March via [info@cancer52.org.uk](mailto:info@cancer52.org.uk)**

**Sent to all Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) Chief Officers**

Dear [CCG Chief Officer],

### **One Year Cancer Survival Rates**

*We write to offer our support in your objective of improving the one year cancer survival rates of your Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), and to invite you to our meetings and Britain Against Cancer (BAC) conference – the largest gathering of the cancer community in the UK.*

*You will be aware that, after a long campaign by the All Party Parliamentary Group on Cancer (APPGC) and the wider 'cancer community', since April 2015 CCGs have been held accountable by NHS England for their individual one-year figures – reflecting the APPGC's view that early diagnosis is cancer's 'magic key'. The recent NHS reforms enable CCGs to promote initiatives to improve earlier diagnosis which are tailored to their local populations – these could include better diagnostics at Primary Care, more symptom awareness campaigns, and improved screening programmes.*

*You will also be acutely aware of the task in hand. Our survival rates remain well behind comparable international figures. 82% of Swedish cancer patients survive at least a year from diagnosis, compared to only 70.4% of patients in England – equating to thousands of unnecessary deaths each year. Furthermore, the latest CCG year-on-year average figure shows only a 0.1% improvement – we may be falling further behind. Meanwhile, nearly one in four cancers continue to be first diagnosed as an emergency procedure. A similar picture emerges from Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.*

*Further to our successful campaign, the APPGC's annual Summer Reception last year welcomed the 20 CCGs which had most improved their one-year survival rates - we intend to make this Awards ceremony a regular fixture. Meanwhile, the APPGC will continue to highlight the one year figures at our annual BAC conference on 5<sup>th</sup> December, in meetings with Ministers and the NHS, and in the House of Commons. The APPGC is joined in this endeavour by all the remaining cancer-specific APPGs, which the APPGC brings together in regular meetings to help coordinate common objectives.*

*You would be welcome to join us. CCGs have an essential role to play to improve the situation and, together with NHS England and the Department of Health, we are available to assist as necessary.*

*We look forward to hearing from you,*

*Yours sincerely,*

*John Baron MP (Chairman, All-Party Parliamentary Group on Cancer)*

*cc. David Mowatt MP, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Care and Support*

*Simon Stevens, Chief Executive, NHS England*

*Cally Palmer, National Cancer Director, NHS England*

*Duncan Selbie, Chief Executive, Public Health England*

*Name Surname*

*Chief Officer, XXX CCG*

*Street*

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Jane

CEO

[Cancer52](#)



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