Dear <MPs name>

**Parliamentary Debate: Funding for brain tumour research – April 18th**

The Petitions Committee published its first ever report ***Funding for research into brain tumours*** on 14th March. The report reveals the distressing experiences of people whose lives have been affected by this devastating disease, as well as exploring the reasons behind the historic underfunding of research under successive governments.

You can read the full report here:

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201516/cmselect/cmpetitions/554/554.pdf>

Key areas covered by the report include:

* Awareness and diagnosis
* Funding levels
* Barriers to research
* Setting research priorities
* Burden of disease
* Availability of therapeutic drugs

The petition "Increase funding into brain tumour research" gained over 120,000 signatures, and will be debated in Parliament on Monday 18th April <https://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/105560>

You can find out more about the Petitions Committee inquiry here:

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/petitions-committee/inquiries/parliament-2015/funding-for-research-into-brain-tumours/>

**Key facts:**

Brain tumours kill more children and adults under the age of 40 than any other cancer... yet just 1% of the national spend on cancer research has been allocated to this devastating disease since 2002.

Unlike many other cancers, incidences of brain tumours are increasing and, as the committee recognised, it is appalling that to date so little has been allocated to research.

Many thousands of families continue to be shocked by the lack of treatments available and clinicians continue to deliver a poor prognosis, causing untold distress to patients and their loved ones.

The charity Brain Tumour Research, in collaboration with its member charities across the UK, is striving to fund a network of seven dedicated research centres. But charities can’t do this alone; as constituents, we need the Government and larger cancer charities to invest more in brain tumour research.

We are encouraged by the attention that this issue has received as a result of the e-petition and the Petition Committee’s inquiry into funding into brain tumour research and we thank the Chair, Helen Jones MP and her team for their hard work and dedication.

We welcome this report and its recommendations and feel at last we are being listened to and we look forward to the upcoming debate.

**My story**

My own interest in this petition and upcoming debate came about because <write your story here>.

**Please attend the debate**

It is MPs that will help us in our fight and, as your constituent, I am hoping I can rely on you to attend and contribute to this very important debate.

The Petitions Committee report recognised that successive governments have failed the brain tumour community over decades.

I urge you to attend the debate on 18th April and also to sign EDM 1082.

<http://www.parliament.uk/edm/2015-16/1082>

At the current rate of national spend it could take 100 years to find a cure. Brain tumour research funding needs to increase to £30-£35 million a year – in line with other cancer research funding.

Now is the time for the Government to stop failing brain tumour patients and their families and to put things right!

Please let me know whether you are able to attend the event on 18th April and whether you need any further information or would like to meet with me or one of the Brain Tumour Research team to discuss the matter further.

Yours sincerely

<Your signature>

<Your name>