

House of Commons London
SW1A 0AA

Date:

Dear:

I am writing to you to ask for your support for an Early Day Motion (No 148 copy enclosed). This EDM is in support of the Spinal Injuries Association (SIA) and its campaign to protect and upgrade the Spinal Cord Injury Service within the NHS. A campaign that has the full support of both professional bodies representing those of us who work within the NHS providing this service, the Multidisciplinary Association of Spinal Cord Injury Specialists (MASCIP) and the British Association of Spinal Cord Injury Specialists (BASCIS).

This specialised service, which was once the best in the world, but sadly over recent years has gone into decline, is vital to the well being of the 40,000+ spinal cord injured people in this country.

I enclose a briefing note about the SIA and its campaign, which describes the service, outlines the major issues facing it and how we feel this matter could be taken forward.

Since its creation in 1974 SIA has successfully campaigned on many issues affecting not only its own members, but also the wider disability community. A community in which SIA is considered one of the most forward thinking and dynamic disability organisations. I consider this current campaign by SIA to be the most important matter it has been involved in since its formation, as its' success or failure will dramatically affect thousands of spinal cord injured and their families across the UK. As a clinician working within this service I know how vital this service and the skills of my colleagues are to the well being of the thousands of SCI people in the UK, many of whom will be your constituents.

As a member of your constituency I am asking you to please support this EDM and help protect this vital NHS Service upon which so many depend. This EDM already has the support of some 220 MPs. If you are one of those who has already added their name may I take this opportunity of thanking you on behalf of the SIA and those of us who provide this service to the 40,000+ SCI people in the UK, for your support.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my request.

Yours sincerely,

Signed