



**ANDREW LANSLEY TO ATTEND ALL PARTY BRAIN TUMOUR GROUP
ALONGSIDE SDBTT SUPPORTERS AND STAFF**

Samantha Dickson Brain Tumour Trust welcome the announcement that Andrew Lansley MP, Secretary of State for Health, will lead a discussion about the future of brain tumour care when he attends a meeting of the All Party Parliamentary Brain Tumour Group on Monday 30th January.

Chair of the All Party Parliamentary Brain Tumour Group, James Arbuthnot MP, will chair the session and welcome input from MPs and guests including: clinicians, patients, carers, GPs and representatives from the charity sector.

Issues which are likely to be raised include how to apply and share best practice across the NHS, the importance of early diagnosis and the need for more research into brain and central nervous system tumours.

MPs and others at the meeting will also hear from Professor Garth Cruickshank, Neurosurgery Consultant at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital Birmingham and a brain tumour patient, Daryl Gittings, about what some of the key characteristics of good brain tumour care are across the country and what they believe government could do to encourage the take up of best practice.

Sarah Lindsell, Chief Executive of Samantha Dickson Brain Tumour Trust said:

“I am delighted that the Secretary of State has confirmed that he will be attending the All Party Brain Tumour Group. This is an opportunity for members of the Brain Tumour Consortium, of which we are proud to be a member, our member charities and clinicians at the sharp-end to get involved in a discussion around the issues raised in our manifesto such as the importance of early diagnosis, the importance of sharing best practice and the need for more research into brain tumours.

“When it comes to the fight against brain and CNS tumours there is always more to be done because the issue has such an impact on so many lives but it is encouraging the Secretary of State is committed to listening to the people who know most about it.”

ENDS

Notes to editors:

1. The Brain Tumour Consortium is a coalition of brain tumour organisations that includes Samantha Dickson Brain Tumour Trust, Brain Tumour Research, Brain Tumour UK, the International Brain Tumour Alliance and the Joseph Foote Trust.

2. The Consortiums three core asks are set out in its manifesto which can be found at <http://www.braintumourconsortium.org.uk> but are summarised below:

- Ensure early diagnosis and treatment by ensuring that clear guidelines on identifying the signs and symptoms of brain tumours, and on referring patients for rapid and appropriate assessment, are integrated into General Practice and Emergency Medicine Practice.
- Implement NICE's best practice guidance by setting a clear timetable to fully implement and audit the Improving Outcomes Guidance, or its country equivalent, in particular by ensuring that the Health and Social Care Bill maintains the progress made to date.
- Increase Government investment in brain tumour research and more accurately measure numbers of both primary and secondary brain tumours by publishing a detailed breakdown of site-specific brain tumour research funding from the Government and ensure that by 2014 at least 7.5% of adults with primary brain tumours are enrolled in randomised, controlled clinical trials as part of their therapy.

3. For further information please contact Matt Willey (020 7618 9146)