



Registered Charity: 1165217

www.actioncp.org

Dear [SALUTATION],

Today, 6 October 2023, is World Cerebral Palsy Day.

Cerebral palsy (CP) is a lifelong neurological condition which affects a person's movement and other aspects of their health, learning, communication, social participation, and wellbeing. Nationwide, there are approximately 30,000 children and 130,000 adults living with CP.

Despite the prevalence of CP and the impact it has on those living with the condition, there is a lack of recognition of the needs of this population, the challenges they face and a clear plan for addressing these across all nations and regions of the UK.

Since its founding in 2013, **Action Cerebral Palsy (ACP)** has sought to raise awareness in Parliament of the lives and needs of children and young people with CP. ACP was a longstanding sponsor of the former **APPG on Cerebral Palsy**; we remain grateful to Paul Maynard MP and Mary Foy MP for co-chairing the APPG, to their many colleagues who chose to participate as officers, and to the attendees and expert witnesses providing evidence at the recent series of meetings for the APPG.

All these stakeholders helped inform a series of reports from the APPG. Despite strong, clear and implementable recommendations from these reports, complex lifelong conditions such as CP and indeed physical disability have been completely ignored in in the recent **SEND and AP Improvement Plan** and the **Disability Action Plan**. We encourage you to read the APPG's and ACP's reports, which you can access [here](#).

Your constituents with CP deserve to be seen and heard. This is why, on World CP Day, we are inviting you to show your support for them by:

1. Posting the attached **#CPAction** graphic on your social media.
2. Sharing the attached "Signs of Cerebral Palsy" poster with children's agencies in your area to ensure that no child at risk of CP falls through the net and misses out on vital early intervention and support. We also encourage you to share [this](#) guide for parents on spotting the early signs of CP.
3. Encouraging your local authority to improve their information and services for people with CP and their families, as recommended by the **#CPCovenant**. You can find out more about the CP Covenant [here](#) – so far 24 local authorities have engaged with us on this.

Thank you,

Pilar Cloud

Chief Executive, Action Cerebral Palsy