

# All-Party Parliamentary Group on Dementia

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The All-Party Parliamentary Group on Dementia (APPG) is a cross party group made up of MPs and Peers with an interest in dementia.

Its aim is to raise awareness of dementia amongst parliamentarians and to influence legislation and policy making in order to improve the lives of [people with dementia](#) and their [carers](#). The Group meets several times a year and uses each meeting to focus on specific issues affecting people with dementia. It also conducts an annual inquiry on a specific topic.

The APPG is run in partnership with Alzheimer's Society, which provides administrative support and expert advice to the Group.

All-Party Parliamentary Group on  
**DEMENTIA**

## Chairman

- Baroness Sally Greengross OBE, Crossbench Peer

## Vice chairs

- David Blunkett MP, Labour, Sheffield Brightside,
- Tracey Crouch MP, Conservative, Chatham and Aylesford
- Tim Farron MP, Liberal Democrat, Westmoreland and Lonsdale
- Mike Hancock MP, Liberal Democrat, Portsmouth South
- Hazel Blears MP, Labour, Salford and Eccles

- Stephen Lloyd MP, Liberal Democrat, Eastbourne

## **Latest APPG news**

### **All-Party Parliamentary Group on Dementia inquiry into services and support for people living with dementia in the UK within minority ethnic groups**

#### **2013 Inquiry**

The APPG has launched a [new](#) inquiry into this topic as people from Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) groups are under-represented in dementia care services and generally tend to seek a diagnosis later than their White British counterparts.

Current evidence in this area is limited, but it does indicate there may be lower awareness, higher levels of stigma, and different cultural understandings of dementia among people from BAME communities. The inquiry will bring together evidence and understanding about the current problems and challenges. It will also find good practice examples where services have been tailored to people with dementia from BAME communities, so that these examples can be shared across the country.

In this work the APPG on Dementia is seeking evidence from a range of people. This will include people with dementia and their carers, health and social care providers and practitioners, and experts in dealing with those challenges that can arise for people living in minority groups.

[Find out about our new inquiry on BAME communities](#)

## Current inquiry

### All-Party Parliamentary Group on Dementia Services and support for people living with dementia in the UK within minority ethnic groups

#### 2013 Inquiry

##### The issue

Dementia affects everyone in society, regardless of gender, ethnicity or socioeconomic status. These factors mean people experience dementia differently and the problems and challenges people and communities face are different.

The BAME population is defined as the population from all ethnic groups with the exception of White British. White Irish, Indian, Pakistani, Chinese and Black Caribbean are large ethnic minority communities amongst older people in the UK.

The number of people over 65 in the BAME community is increasing and with it the number of people with dementia. The areas of the UK with the highest BAME population are Greater London with significant Asian communities in the West Midlands and the North West, extending into West Yorkshire. Furthermore, whilst these are the larger older minority communities, the difficulties faced by smaller, less integrated communities are potentially more challenging still.

Current evidence in this area is limited, but it does indicate there might be lower awareness, higher levels of stigma, and different cultural understandings of dementia among people from BAME communities. Language and cultural differences may result in people presenting later to general dementia services than their White British counterparts, when their dementia has become more severe.

This inquiry will bring together evidence and understanding about the experience of people with dementia from the BAME community. It will also find good practice examples where services have been tailored to people with dementia from BAME communities, so that these examples can be shared across the country.

In this work the APPG on Dementia is seeking evidence from a range of people. This will include people with dementia and their carers, health and social care providers and practitioners, and experts in dealing with those issues that can face people living in different minority groups.

##### Process of the inquiry

Interviews will be carried out with people with dementia and their families who live within BAME communities. Commissioners and providers of services will be asked to [submit case studies](#) of services they have tailored to specific minority groups. The deadline is Friday 1 March.

Following this oral evidence sessions will also be held in parliament where the MPs and Peers will hear from expert witnesses.

A summary of the evidence along with recommendations for improvement will be published in a report in Summer 2013.

For more information about this work please email [appg@alzheimers.org.uk](mailto:appg@alzheimers.org.uk) or call 020 7423 3585/

5186.

### **How you can get involved**

If you have experience of providing or commissioning a service that has been tailored for a BAME community, please fill in the [online form and share your experience](#). The deadline is Friday 1 March.

You can also [register your interest](#) in this work if you would like to be kept up to date with its progress, and receive an invitation to observe the oral evidence sessions in March 2013.

## Previous inquiries of the APPG on Dementia

Here you can find out more about previous inquiries by the APPG on particular topics.

### **Unlocking Diagnosis: The key to improving the lives of people with dementia (2012)**

In this report the APPG looked into increasing the number of people with dementia with a diagnosis in the UK .

[Unlocking diagnosis report](#)

### **The £20 Billion Question - An inquiry into improving lives through cost-effective dementia services (2011)**

In this report the APPG looked into the evidence for cost effective models of dementia care.

[The £20 Billion Question report](#)

### **A Misspent Opportunity? Inquiry into the funding of the National Dementia Strategy (2010)**

In this report the APPG examines initial progress made by Primary Care Trusts (PCTs) in England towards implementing the [National Dementia Strategy for England](#) (NDSE), published in February 2009.

[A Misspent Opportunity? report](#)

### **Prepared to care. Inquiry into the dementia care skills of the social care workforce (2009)**

[Prepared to Care report](#)

### **Always A Last Resort: Inquiry into the prescription of antipsychotic drugs to people with dementia living in care homes (2008)**

[Always a Last Resort report](#)

## Previous meetings of the APPG on Dementia

The APPG holds regular meetings in Parliament on different topics. Here you can find out about meetings of the APPG since July 2010.

### 3 July 2012, House of Parliament

The APPG on Dementia launched its report '[Unlocking Diagnosis: The key to improving the lives of people with dementia](#)' and held its AGM. It was attended by a wide range of individuals, including carers, GPs, people with dementia and organisations interested in dementia. Speakers included Paul Burstow MP the Minister for Care Services, Department of Health, RCGP, Royal College of Psychiatrists/ MSNAPs and Dementia Action Alliance/ SCIE.

[Read the minutes from 3 July meeting](#)

### 6 February 2012, House of Parliament

Various APPGs met to discuss the Government White Paper on social care reform expected in the Spring. Paul Burstow presented on the findings of its consultation 'Caring for Our Future' that took place last year. He also sought the views of all APPGs on next steps for reform.

[Read the minutes from 6 July meeting](#)

### 2 November 2011, House of Commons

Representatives from the Humphrey Booth Resource Centre, Salford and from a Sports and Social Club, South Gloucestershire provided an understanding of the important role that high quality care and support services can play in helping people to live well with dementia.

[Read the minutes from 2 November meeting](#)

### 12 July 2011, House of Commons

Joint APPG meeting with the APPG on Hospice & Palliative Care discussing the importance of working together to ensure that national and local strategies for dementia and end of life care are joined up and implemented in a consistent way.

[Read the minutes from 12 July meeting](#)

### 7 December 2010, House of Commons

Professor Alistair Burns, National Clinical Director for Dementia, explained the work the Department of Health will carry out to meet the commitment to reduce the prescribing of antipsychotics for people with dementia by two-thirds by November 2011.

- [Read Professor Burn's presentation \(PDF\)](#)

- [Read the minutes of the meeting on reducing the prescription of antipsychotic drugs to people with dementia](#)

## **28 October 2010, House of Commons**

Joint APPG meeting on social care reform with Andrew Dilnot, Chairman of the Commission on the Funding of Care and Support

[Read the minutes from 28 October meeting](#)

## **7 July 2010, House of Commons**

Inaugural meeting of the APPG on Dementia

What will the Coalition government mean for dementia?

[Read the minutes from 7 July meeting](#)

- [list of APPG meetings \(June 2007 - June 2010\)](#)

Alzheimer's Society National Dementia Helpline

England, Wales and Northern Ireland: 0300 222 11 22

9.00am-5.00pm Monday-Friday

10.00am-4.00pm Saturday-Sunday

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