

CALL FOR EVIDENCE

The APPG on Cerebral Palsy is launching a call for evidence for its next two virtual sessions:

1. **Barriers for adults with Cerebral Palsy accessing and receiving healthcare that prevent them from ageing well and full life participation. (Tuesday 14 September – 2pm)**
2. **Barriers to employment facing people with Cerebral Palsy entering, staying in, and progressing in work, and lessons from the impact of Covid-19 (Tuesday 19 November – 2pm)**

We are taking written submissions for our report to Parliamentarians with a deadline of 5pm on Tuesday 30 November 2021. Input from any interested stakeholder on these topics will be considered. This evidence will be used to inform the recommendations the APPG makes to Government. We are seeking concise responses focused on policy recommendations, key facts and figures.

Submissions

Please limit your submission to **2 sides of A4, use clear sub-headings and include a brief bullet summary of your evidence at the top of the submission.** Send with the subject line: APPG on Cerebral Palsy – call for evidence, to CerebralPalsyAPPG@connectpa.co.uk.

We will accept video or audio clips as submissions that are **no longer than three minutes.** Please send these to us using [WeTransfer](#) to the above email address, clearing noting them as evidence and ensure they are in a format the Secretariat can access.

Please do not submit academic papers, think-tank reports or other lengthy documents. Any relevant parts should be highlighted in written submissions or hyperlinked to. Extracts will also be accepted within the limits for a written submissions.

One submission will be accepted from each individual/organisation. If you are making a submission in a personal capacity in addition to one from any organisation you are part of, please make this clear in any email.

Key themes

The key themes we are seeking evidence on are:

We are interested in uncovering what barriers adults with CP face in accessing and receiving healthcare that stop them from ageing well and being able to continue participating in life fully. We are also interested in hearing people's experiences, and what impact this has had on their physical and mental health.

Some of the questions the APPG is interested in are:

- How does the healthcare needs of people with CP change over their lifetime, including the impact of living with a lifelong condition, and those with co-morbidities?
- Do the services today meet the needs of adults with CP and, if not, is there a better way to support adults to navigate health services and understand their condition?
- What are the barriers that adults with CP experience accessing health care?
- What do services for adults with CP receive in comparison with?
 - Pediatric services/diagnostic overshadowing
 - Other long-term conditions
 - The NICE recommendations
- Are there examples of better models of care which could be adapted for adults?
- What are the consequences for adults of not receiving care? This might include unmet health needs, a lack of life participation, and economic impact both on the individual and on society.
- Do adults living with CP have the right support when transferring from pediatric to adult services?
- What are the impacts the lack of understanding of CP as an adult condition and the consequence of lack of services have on the physical and mental health needs of the community?

We also want to know what the barriers are in employment settings that stop people with CP from entering, staying in, and progressing in work. We are interested in hearing people's experiences, and what impact this has had on their physical and mental health.

Some of the questions the APPG is interested in are:

- Do young people with CP have the support they need to navigate the transition from leaving education to seeking work?
- What are the barriers to getting an interview and securing a role for people with CP?
- Are there significant problems in workplaces that are stopping people with CP from staying in jobs?
- Are there barriers outside of the workplace that prevent adults with CP from getting into and staying in work, such as issues with transport provision, access to appropriate digital training, and accessibility issues in the built environment?
- What impact are these issues having on people's mental and physical wellbeing?
- How easy is it for people with CP to progress in their career? What can be done to empower people with CP to develop and grow in roles?

- How can Government and businesses measure employment trends for people with CP? Is disability reporting for large businesses the best approach?

The APPG wants to consider the lessons we can learn from the pandemic:

- The past year has seen many changes to the way people are working, with many people working from home and having flexible hours.
- For many disabled people, this has been beneficial, as people are able to better manage their disability or condition around work, and because of the reduction in the issues and stresses associated with physical inaccessibility on transport and in workplaces.
- We are interested to hear whether these benefits are reaching people with CP, and whether there are learnings that can be implemented workplaces as we come out of the pandemic that will.
- What lessons can we learn about the need for long-term rehab and lack of provision from individuals with long COVID?