

TOM PURSGLOVE MP
CORBY & EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

30th August 2017

Dear Constituent,

RE: HELP TO SAVE THE LIVES OF THOSE WITH BLOOD CANCER.

Thank you for your recent correspondence in respect of stem cell donation.

I'm sorry that I was unable to attend the APPG on Stem Cell Transplantation's Summer Reception on Tuesday 18th July.

It is very important to increase the number of stem cell (cord blood and bone marrow) donors in the UK and so I welcome the vital work undertaken by Anthony Nolan.

In 2015, the Government announced an extra £3 million in additional funding for stem cell services; part of £19 million in additional investment that the Government has committed since 2010 to improve the provision of cells in the UK. This funding is being used to encourage young adult donors, as well as those from under-represented populations, such as black, Asian and ethnic minority communities, who find it difficult to secure a suitable match.

A single unified bone marrow donor registry has been created, streamlining the provision of stem cells and reducing the time to provide cells from adult donors. It is encouraging that the total number of registered stem cell donors continues to expand. In 2010, the total number of registered United Kingdom donors was 770,000, which increased to in excess of one million by the end of 2014. This led to more UK patients receiving a stem cell transplant in 2014 than ever before.

Once again, thank you for having taken the time to contact me and if I can ever be of any further assistance to you then please do not hesitate to contact me again.

With best wishes,

TOM PURSGLOVE MP
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT
CORBY & EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE