TOM PURSGLOVE MP
CORBY & EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

24th May 2019

Dear Constituent,

RE: MOTOR NEURONE DISEASE (MND).

Thank you for contacting me recently about support for people with motor neurone disease (MND); your comments upon which I read with great interest.

I understand that MND is a devastating disease which can be difficult to diagnose. With early diagnosis key to treating the symptoms of MND, I am glad that the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) has published new guidelines for clinicians on the assessment and management of MND. These set out the signs and symptoms of the disease, and recommend that patients suspected of having MND should be referred without delay. The Royal College of GPs and the MND Association have also worked together to produce a 'Red Flag Tool' which sets out key signs of MND to help GPs to identify suspected cases and ensure prompt referral.

All services for people with MND should be commissioned in line with NHS England's neurosciences service specification which sets out what providers must have in place to deliver high quality specialised neurological care. MND care is part of the NHS's specialised services. You may like to know that the budget for these services has increased more rapidly than other parts of the NHS, to £16.6 billion for the year 2017/18.

I also recognise the valuable contribution made by carers of people with MND, many of whom spend a significant proportion of their life providing support to family members, friends and neighbours. I agree that carers must receive the right support to help them carry out their caring roles and a new National Carers Strategy is being introduced to look at what more can be done to support existing and future carers.

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