



NHS European Office



Tuesday, July 22

Dear Mr Juncker

Congratulations on your appointment to President of the European Commission. We very much look forward to working with you during the next Commission mandate.

We write to highlight our support for the post of Chief Scientific Adviser to the European Commission President – we urge you to both maintain and strengthen this role.

It is crucial that science and innovation concerns and an evidence based approach are embedded into all aspects of policymaking. We look to a future where the impact of each and every potential EU law on peoples' health and Europe's research environment is prioritised.

The Chief Scientific Adviser to the European Commission President has a clear role in making this vision a reality. A designated champion of science and health, the Chief Scientific Adviser ensures the voice of the research and public health communities are heard loud and clear at the highest level.

We acknowledge the achievements of the existing Chief Scientific Adviser. Professor Anne Glover has worked tirelessly to promote scientific issues and evidence in policymaking and we commend her efforts.

We urge you to maintain the role in order to continue to improve policymaking in relation to science and research. We also ask that you consider strengthening its remit, formalising and extending the scope of the position: this would maximise its impact, send a clear sign of support for patients and researchers, and help build a better future for people in Europe.

Yours sincerely,

Sarah Woolnough – Executive Director of Policy and Information – Cancer Research UK

Rebecca Wood – Chief Executive – Alzheimer's Research UK

Charles Kernahan – Interim CEO – Association of Medical Research Charities

Nicola Perrin – Head of Policy – Wellcome Trust

Alastair Kent OBE – President – Patients' Network for Medical Research and Health (EGAN)

Elisabetta Zanon – Director – NHS Europe office

Dr Liam O'Toole – CEO – Arthritis Research UK

Kathy Oliver – Chair and Co-Director – International Brain Tumour Alliance – IBTA

Rachel Evans – Clinical Research Policy and Campaigns Advisor – Parkinson's UK