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## The All-Party Parliamentary Group on Brain Tumours

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### Briefing to Parliamentarians – July 2023

This Briefing was produced and funded by Brain Tumour Research. This is not an official publication of the House of Commons or the House of Lords. It has not been approved by either House or its committees. All-Party Parliamentary Groups are informal groups of Members of both Houses with a common interest in particular issues. The views expressed in this report are those of the Group.

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## Meeting of the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Brain Tumours

**Committee Room 6**

**17:00 – 18:00 Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2023**

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### *Remembering Amani – a legacy of change?*

#### **Agenda**

- Welcome from Chair, **Derek Thomas MP**
- Apologies received
- Matters arising from April meeting and update from the Secretariat including progress on report recommendations
- Introduction of Speakers: Amani's parents **Khuram Liaquat** and **Yasmin Stannard**, **Dr Anup Vinayan** and **Dr Thomas Carter** (Amani's Neuro-oncologists) and Amani's Clinical Nurse Specialist **Tanya Betts**
- Speakers share their experience of Amani's journey and hopes for future treatments and clinical opportunities for brain tumour patients
- Discussion with APPG around how our report recommendations dovetail with our speakers' stories and hopes
- AOB and next meeting

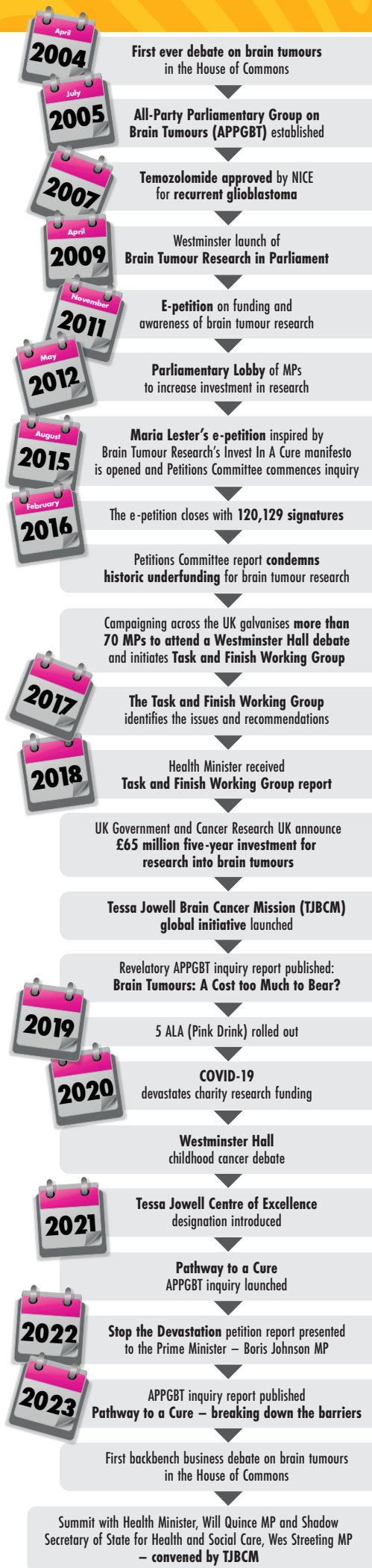
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**Brain Tumour  
Research**  
Together we will find a cure

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## Remembering Amani – a legacy of change?

The eldest of Khuram and Yasmin's three daughters, Amani Liaquat was diagnosed with an aggressive brain tumour after collapsing at home on her 22<sup>nd</sup> birthday in April 2020. The coronavirus lockdown meant she had to endure brain surgery and numerous scans with no visitors allowed at her bedside during a 12-day stay in hospital. After standard of care failed to stop the growth of her tumour the family were left in the difficult position of having to source lifesaving treatment from Germany. Thanks to the generosity of family, friends and complete strangers, over £100,000 was quickly raised to help finance this. Amani passed away in February 2022.





**Dr Anup Vinayan** is a consultant oncologist working at Mount Vernon Cancer Centre and specialises in all non-surgical treatment of adult brain tumours (both primary and secondary) and breast cancers. His expertise includes treatment with chemotherapy, novel targeted therapy, immunotherapy and complex radiotherapy techniques including Cyberknife and Gamma Knife. Dr Vinayan completed his oncology training working in major cancer centres in London and has also completed his research doctorate from University of Hertfordshire. He has been involved in clinical research for more than 15 years and presented at multiple international conferences and has produced several peer-reviewed publications.



**Dr Thomas Carter** is a recently appointed consultant medical oncologist working at Mount Vernon Cancer Centre. He treats both melanoma and non-melanoma skin cancer as well as primary brain cancer. He has more than eight years of experience working in cancer clinical trials, and alongside his clinical work he is an honorary clinical lecturer within the UCL division of medicine. He holds a PhD in cancer immunotherapy and nanotechnology from University College London, and has co-authored over 15 peer-reviewed clinical and scientific publications.



**Tanya Betts** is a Macmillan clinical nurse specialist in neuro-oncology based at Mount Vernon Cancer Care Centre. She has more than five years of experience in looking after patients with primary brain tumours, the majority of whom have a diagnosis of glioblastoma. Tanya is an experienced nurse having worked for over 20 years within the NHS. Prior to her current role Tanya worked as a clinical nurse specialist within the palliative care team at West Hertfordshire NHS Trust where she gained invaluable skills in caring for patients with a life-shortening diagnosis. She is passionate about her role and strives to ensure all patients and their families are supported throughout their cancer journey.

## APPG on Brain Tumours Objectives

To raise awareness of the issues facing the brain tumour community in order to improve research, diagnosis, information, support, treatment and care outcomes.

### Secretariat

The charity Brain Tumour Research, supported by Health Comms Consulting, provides the Secretariat for the All-Party Parliamentary Group with contributions from its Member Charities.



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## Brain Tumour Research Member Charities



The social media hashtag for the meeting is **#APPGBT**.

This Briefing and the Minutes of the meeting will be available at:

[www.braintumourresearch.org/campaigning/appg-on-brain-tumours](http://www.braintumourresearch.org/campaigning/appg-on-brain-tumours)