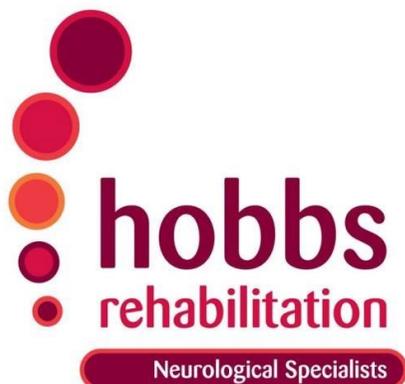


PRESS RELEASE MAY 2019



Hobbs Rehabilitation founders attend a parliamentary reception hosted by UKABIF (United Kingdom Brain Injury Forum) and Chris Bryant, MP at The Speakers House on 22nd May 2019.

Their **Time for Change** campaign aims to raise the profile of ABI (Acquired Brain Injury) and to seek improvements in support and services for people directly affected by ABI, and also their families and carers.

The event was attended by over a hundred people including many with a lived experience of brain injury as well as charities, support groups and those working as clinicians and academics.

Helen Hobbs and Nicky Ellis, co-founders of Hobbs Rehabilitation, met with around 30 MPs, including former Health Minister Steve Brine, MP for Winchester (pictured below)



Steve Brine, while the Public Health Minister, responded to the APPG report on behalf of the Government and says there's a long way to go; "I was determined we'd do better from the Department of Health perspective but this is so much bigger than one Department and requires Cabinet Office leadership. We need to recognise that rehab matters which is why it was so good to see Hobbs at the event to continue making that case".

Helen Hobbs and Nicky Ellis lead a team of over 80 specialist clinicians, providing physiotherapy, occupational therapy, neuropsychology and speech and language therapy, via intensive inpatient and outpatient rehabilitation from 11 Hobbs centres across the south of England.



Helen Hobbs said "It is so exciting that this vulnerable group of patients' needs are finally being recognised and we really believe that we can influence and bring change with real benefits to those who need them.

Our passion for improving neuro rehabilitation services is the very reason we set up Hobbs Rehabilitation 14 years ago.

We are extremely proud of the service we provide both at our intensive residential rehabilitation centres and in the community. Enabling people to get back to their families and to their everyday lives is at the heart of what we do".

Nicky Ellis adds, "Rehab is cost effective and with the cost of traumatic brain injury being estimated at £15 billion per annum, it's vital that we deliver services which we know can improve the quality of life for those affected, so that rather than just surviving, they can really live their lives.

The Time for Change report highlights the need for better services for those discharged post concussion and we are hosting a conference in November bringing together leading academics and clinicians in this field to harness their expertise and experience to help develop robust treatment pathways”.



Chris Bryant, MP confirmed his commitment to making changes for people with brain injury by improving access to neurorehabilitation for adults and children.

He also spoke of his disappointment in sports bodies for their poor management of concussion and said that he would not sleep until the recommendations of the APPG Report: Acquired Brain Injury and Neurorehabilitation: Time for Change were taken forward.

UKABIF, a charity who raise awareness of ABI, say that there are more than 1.3 million people living with the effects of brain injury at a cost to the UK economy of 10% of the National Health Service (NHS) budget.

The excellent advances in emergency and acute medicine mean that many more children, young people and adults now survive with an ABI, however, many of these individuals require early and continued access to neurorehabilitation to optimise all aspects of their physical, cognitive, behavioural and psychosocial recovery, and to maximise their long-term potential.

That message was reinforced by a powerful new short film *Cause and Effect - 'Time for Change'* (below) The film highlights the wide impact of such injuries right across the nation and attempts to capture the complete devastation and cost to all those involved. (To view the film please follow [this UKABIF link](#))



For more information, please contact Kirsti Pretty at kirsti@hobbsrehabilitation.co.uk

Note to Editors:

Founded by **Nicky Ellis** and **Helen Hobbs**, **HOBS REHABILITATION**

offers a full multidisciplinary 'one stop shop' operating across the south of England.

Hobbs has a national contract with the RFU Injured Players Foundation for catastrophically injured players, as well as a partnership with Injured Jockeys Fund. These clients include spinal cord injury, stroke and head injured players.

Hobbs Rehabilitation are proud winners of several awards including SEHTA Partnership with the NHS Award, a high commendation at the MS Trust QUDOS Awards, twice regional winners at the Life After Stroke Awards and were nominated for the Excellence Network Award from Parkinson's UK, the largest charity funder of research into Parkinson's in the UK.

Experts in clinical education, Hobbs Rehabilitation provides a full and varied post-graduate training programme for employed staff and external clinicians, running national training for some of the specialist neurotechnology they have available.

In addition, they regularly participate in clinical trials and case studies both nationally and internationally.

For more information please visit hobbsrehabilitation.co.uk