



mnda

motor neurone disease
association

Campaigning toolkit

Meeting with members of the Welsh Assembly (AMs)

Organising a meeting with your AM is one of the most effective ways of communicating your campaign message, and helps in persuading those with decision making power to change things.





mnda

motor neurone disease
association



You can find out who your Assembly members are by typing your postcode into the website www.writetothem.com or by going to www.assembly.wales/en/memhome/Pages/memhome.aspx



You will always be represented by one AM for your local constituency and four AMs representing a larger region. Your constituency AM may be best to approach first, unless you think a regional AM will be more supportive or influential.



Contact your AM's office to arrange an appointment or go to their drop-in surgery. Drop-in surgeries are opportunities for constituents to voice their concerns and are often advertised in local papers and in libraries.



Please let the campaigns team campaigns@mndassociation.org and your Regional Care Development Adviser (RCDA) know your meeting arrangements. We can help you to prepare, and knowing that a meeting has taken place will inform future contact with that AM. If in doubt as to who your regional team are, please visit our website: www.mndassociation.org/staff-contacts



Prepare what you are going to say, and be clear what action you are hoping the AM will take after you meet them, eg attend/speak at a local event, take action on a campaign, speak/write to other local decision makers or media etc.



It is useful to write down your key points. Make sure you have the facts to hand, eg how many people within your area are living with motor neurone disease (MND). You can get these statistics from campaigns@mndassociation.org - your RCDA can also provide you further local examples and knowledge.



Keep focused during the meeting on the campaign issues and why they are so important – if you feel comfortable doing so, share your personal experiences; these are compelling and support your ask.



At the end of the meeting, confirm the key action points that have been agreed and write them down. Thank them for their time and let them know that you'll follow up in writing.



After the meeting, follow-up with an email confirming what was agreed, specifying the date, time and names of attendees.



Once you have made initial contact with your AM, think of ways to keep your campaigning in their minds. Send updates of successes you and, if applicable, your local branch/group has had. If you write an article, send them a copy. Invite them to events being organised by your branch/group, and ask them to meet with people living with MND, their families and carers at your support meetings.

TOP TIPS

Be aware of any particular role your AM may have, eg a position in the Welsh Government or being an opposition spokesperson, and what their area of responsibility is.

mnda
motor neurone disease
association

MND Association PO Box 246 Northampton NN1 2PR

Telephone: 01604 250505 Email: campaigns@mndassociation.org

www.mndassociation.org

@mndcampaigns /mndcampaigns

Reg. Charity No. 294354 © MND Association 2018