Dear

I am writing to invite you to attend an important event hosted by The British Polio Fellowship in **Room R, Portcullis House, from 3:30 to 5:00 pm on Wednesday, 23 October.**

The Fellowship is raising awareness about the lifelong needs of polio survivors. Over time, many of us experience late effects of polio (LEoP), including joint deterioration, overuse injuries to stronger areas, pain, fatigue, sleep apnea, increased gait disturbance, respiratory infections, osteoporosis, osteoarthritis, falls, and fractures.

Approximately 60% of polio survivors also develop new muscle weakness, leading to further muscle atrophy, worsening pain, fatigue, and breathing issues—a neurological condition known as post-polio syndrome (PPS).

As a polio survivor myself, I am acutely aware of how careful management and treatment can slow the progression of symptoms, improve function, and enhance quality of life.

It is estimated that a minimum of 47,000 people, and likely several hundred thousand more, who have been affected by polio are living in the UK today. While many are over the age of 50, mostly in their 60s and 70s, there is a growing number of younger polio survivors who contracted the disease abroad before moving to the UK. These individuals are of working age and face unique challenges.

Unfortunately, care for polio survivors is often compromised due to a general lack of awareness and understanding among healthcare professionals, including those in primary care, about LEoP, and PPS.

I strongly encourage you to attend the event on 23 October, after Prime Minister's Questions, to learn more about how you can support this vital cause.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Yours sincerely,