



*Cannabis Law Reform*  
PO Box 674, Salfords, Redhill, Surrey. RH1 9BN. UK  
enquiries@clear-uk.org  
www.clear-uk.org

Andrew Lansley CBE MP  
Secretary of State for Health  
Department of Health  
Richmond House  
79 Whitehall  
London  
SW1A 2NS

13<sup>th</sup> April 2011

Dear Mr Lansley,

#### **Medicinal Cannabis**

I am writing to you about the urgent necessity to permit the prescribing of medicinal cannabis by doctors.

Please do not refer me to the Home Office. Its intransigent position on the subject amounts to a scandalous denial of science and cruel mistreatment of hundreds of thousands of British citizens. This is a health issue which requires your attention and care for those in pain and suffering.

There is now an overwhelming body of peer reviewed, published research that proves beyond doubt the efficacy of medicinal cannabis for the treatment of many conditions. Britain is becoming increasingly isolated as a place where patients are denied access to the medicine they need. Utterly absurd is that patients from the EU can bring medicinal cannabis into Britain under the protection of the Schengen Agreement but British residents risk prison for using exactly the same substance.

Every country in Europe except France and Britain now has some form of medicinal cannabis provision. 15 US states now permit medical marijuana on a doctor's recommendation and Israel has a fast expanding programme. There are huge cost savings and benefits to be gained and enormous reductions in harm from side effects of poisonous pharmaceutical products.

There are already many instances in Britain where MS patients have been refused Sativex on cost grounds and so have been forced into illegal purchase or cultivation and have then been prosecuted as criminals. This is a shame and disgrace on our nation and I appeal to you to take steps to end it.

Perhaps you do not realise the transformational effect that medicinal cannabis can have on some people's lives? Almost miraculous results are being achieved, particularly with MS, Crohn's and fibromyalgia. People who would otherwise be trapped by pain and disability are able to lead productive lives with the help of medicinal cannabis.

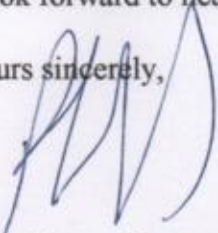
Please Mr Lansley, will you arrange to meet me and a delegation of people whose lives are literally saved by the use of medicinal cannabis? This cruel and demeaning policy cannot be allowed to continue in the face of overwhelming evidence. Safe, high quality, standardised dose cannabis is now available from Bedrocan in Holland, the Dutch government's supplier and is exported all over Europe to fill doctors' prescriptions. How much longer must British citizens wait?

Co-ordinated action is already underway for dozens of patients to take the Home Office to judicial review for its refusal to grant import licenses for Bedrocan. This is at huge cost in public money and people's lives. You could take steps to end this suffering now. You could enable the NHS to start making huge cost savings immediately. This issue is not going away.

CLEAR is a new team of committed professionals that is determined to bring this issue to the top of the political agenda. Please arrange to meet me and learn at first hand how much good you could do by a change of policy that is, in any case, inevitable. Don't make those people in pain and suffering wait any longer.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Peter Reynolds', written over the 'Yours sincerely,' text.

**Peter Reynolds**

**Leader**

Email: [peter@peter-reynolds.co.uk](mailto:peter@peter-reynolds.co.uk)