

Ulster University Cromore Road Coleraine County Londonderry BT52 15A Northern Ireland T: +44 (0)28 7012 4326 E: ml.giles@ulster.ac.uk ulster.ac.uk

Dr Niamh Kennedy Room H243 Cromore Road Coleraine Co. Londonderry BT52 1SA Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2017

Wellcome Trust Gibbs Building, 215 Euston Road, London, NW1 2BE

Dear Sir or Madam,

It is my pleasure to add my support for Rich Chilver's proposal to the Wellcome Trust. Rich and I have discussed his goals and I agree there is a need for an authentic and informative drama on stroke. I believe this stage play would raise the level of public discussion on social care for stroke patients and increase awareness of how this condition can be treated.

My research specialises in the neurophysiology of recovery of function post stroke, a subject well in need of illumination to the general public. Rich will always be able to seek my advice and I have agreed to provide feedback on his scripts and where possible any rehearsal. In addition to this I have invited Rich to attend an on-going study I am running at The University of Ulster where he can observe young stroke survivors charting their recovery, sharing their experiences and in discussion on the state of care they are receiving.

I am delighted to offer this level of support as this project would be an invaluable platform to talk directly to the public. I wish Rich every success and look forward to working with him.

Yours faithfully,

Nomh Kennedy

Dr Niamh Kennedy