How to contact your MLA



Join us in lobbying politicians around the UK to ask them to support action for the less survivable cancers.

If you live in Northern Ireland, below is a draft email that you can personalise and send to your MLA to ask them to support action for the less survivable cancers.

You'll need to find out who your MLA is and find their contact email address or postal address, which you can do at the following link: MLA Search | Northern Ireland Assembly

You can copy and paste the letter below to an email, add your personal details, and a paragraph about your personal experiences if you have been affected by one of these cancers. Then send it to your representative. Please keep us updated with any response you get by emailing lesssurvivablecancers@principleconsulting.org.uk

Draft email

Dear [NAME OF MLA],

I live in your constituency at [INSERT YOUR ADDRESS] and am writing to ask if you will help to raise awareness of symptoms of the less survivable cancers, and also support action to focus on these cancers.

The six less survivable cancers are cancers of the lung, pancreas, liver, brain, oesophagus and stomach. In Northern Ireland, almost 17% of new cancer cases each year are less survivable cancers, but they make up 42% of all cancer deaths. These cancers simply have not seen the improvements in outcomes that have been made in other cancer areas in recent decades.

The 11th of January 2023 is Less Survivable Cancers Awareness Day, run by the Less Survivable Cancers Taskforce. The day aims to raise the profile of these six cancers, to raise awareness of symptoms and to highlight the critical importance of early diagnosis in improving survival.

Less survivable cancers are difficult to diagnose, with vague or non-specific symptoms. We need to raise awareness of less survivable cancers and their symptoms with the public, encouraging people to see their GP if they have worrying symptoms.

I would be delighted if you could show your support for the less survivable cancers by:

- Sharing social media posts from the Less Survivable Cancers Taskforce on Twitter, Instagram, and Facebook
- Writing to the Minister for Health, Robin Swann MLA, to ask that he sets specific targets for less survivable cancers to drive improvements in earlier diagnosis, faster diagnosis and optimal care pathways for each of the 6 cancers.

Thank you for your time, and I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely, [Your name]