## How to contact your MP



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

Below is a draft email that you can personalise and send to your MP to ask them to support action for the less survivable cancers.

You'll need to find out who your MP is and find their contact email address or postal address, which you can do at the following link: <a href="https://www.parliament.uk/mps-lords-and-offices/mps/">https://www.parliament.uk/mps-lords-and-offices/mps/</a>

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 MP],

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. Over 80,000 people are diagnosed with one of these cancers every year in the UK and they account for almost half of all common cancer deaths. Sadly, only 16% of people diagnosed with a less survivable cancer will live for 5 years or more after diagnosis. 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 responsible for cancer, Helen Whately MP, to ask that the 10-Year Cancer Plan is published and includes specific actions to improve outcomes for those with less survivable cancers
- Attending the drop-in event in Parliament on 11<sup>th</sup> January, 10am-12pm, Room N of Portcullis House to learn more about these cancers

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

Yours sincerely, [Your name]