

One Cancer Voice letter to Conservative Party Leadership Candidates



The Rt Hon Rishi Sunak MP & The Rt Hon Liz Truss MP
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA



22nd July 2022

Dear Rishi and Liz

Congratulations on being selected as the final candidates for the leadership of the Conservative Party and the UK's next Prime Minister. We are writing as One Cancer Voice, a coalition of over 50 charities working on behalf of the 1 in 2 people who will get cancer in their lifetime, to urge you to take bold action to improve cancer survival and outcomes in this country.

In 2019, the Conservative Party manifesto championed the need to improve cancer survival as part of the party's belief in the NHS and improving its performance. Though this commitment was a welcome one, the cancer landscape in 2022 does not live up to that promise. Cancer Waiting Times continue to be missed month on month (in May, the 62-day target of 85% was missed at 61.5%), cancer survival in this country continues to trail behind other comparable nations, and progress on vital early diagnosis has stalled.

This can and must change. Your leadership and commitment on this issue could make a huge difference in driving forward the change patients, practitioners and researchers need to deliver on the promised world leading cancer outcomes for families in this country.

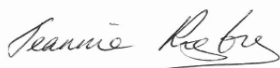
That impact should start with the 10-Year Cancer Plan, originally due to be published this July. We are urging both of you to recommit to the publication of this plan and to work with us to ensure it is:

- **Fit for the future, fit for patients:** This plan must set bold and stretching targets to achieve what really matters to people affected by cancer in the next decade – for example, by ensuring 78% of people are diagnosed at stage one or stage two and a 95% Faster Diagnosis Standard is met.
- **Visionary and achievable:** A transformative plan will harness the power of the UK's world beating research and innovation to improve outcomes, patient experience and tackle health inequalities head on. It would publicly announce objectives, set timelines and match them with smart investment, helping to boost the economy.
- **A roadmap to solve cancer staff shortages:** The plan must set out targeted funding to grow the cancer workforce to meet current and future demand to tackle backlogs, make more time for patients and drive innovation. It needs robust workforce modelling for the lifetime of the plan, matched by investment for at least the lifetime of the current Spending Review.

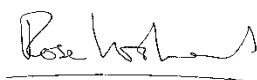
Today, there are around 375,000 new cancer cases in the UK every year – 313,000 in England alone. By 2035, we expect that UK number to rise to 500,000. Inaction is not acceptable for the patients of today and tomorrow. **We are requesting a meeting with you to share our evidence and expertise, and help you seize this opportunity to make the next ten years transformative ones for cancer care.**

Please contact ian.caleb@cancer.org.uk so we can arrange a suitable date. In the meantime, we encourage you [to read our calls to the Government](#), including our ten important tests for action on cancer.

Best wishes



Jeannie Rigby
Chief Executive
Action Bladder Cancer UK



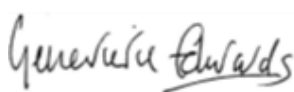
Rose Woodward
Founder
Action Kidney Cancer



Henry Braund
Chief Executive
Anthony Nolan



Gemma Peters
Chief Executive
Blood Cancer UK



Genevieve Edwards
Chief Executive
Bowel Cancer UK



Will Jones
Chief Executive
Brainstrust



Sue Farrington Smith MBE
Chief Executive
Brain Tumour Research



Baroness Delyth Morgan
Chief Executive
Breast Cancer Now



Pamela Healy OBE
Chief Executive
British Liver Trust



Jane Lyons
Chief Executive
Cancer52



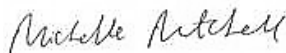
Professor Frank
Chingwundoh MBE
Chairperson
Cancer Black Care



Robin Pritchard
Co-Director
Cancer Care Map



John Symons
Director
Cancer of Unknown Primary
Foundation - Jo's friends



Michelle Mitchell OBE
Chief Executive
Cancer Research UK



Jo Elvin
Chief Executive
Children with Cancer UK



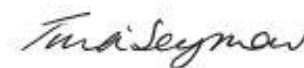
Ashley Gamble
Chief Executive
Children's Cancer and
Leukaemia Group



Marc Auckland
CLLSA Chair of Trustees
CLL Support Association



Dr Jen Kelly
CEO
Grace Kelly Childhood Cancer
Trust



Tina Seymour
Chief Executive
Hope for Tomorrow



Samantha Dixon
Chief Executive
Jo's Cervical Cancer Trust

Nick Turkentine
Chief Operating Officer
Kidney Cancer UK

Anna Jewell
Chair
**Less Survivable Cancers
Taskforce**

Zack Pemberton-Whiteley
Chief Executive
Leukaemia Care

Fiona Hazel
Chief Executive
Leukaemia UK

Stewart O'Callaghan
Founder & Chief Exe
Live Through This

Ropinder Gill
Chief Executive
Lymphoma Action

Lynda Thomas CBE
Chief Executive
Macmillan Cancer Support

Gillian Nuttall
Chief Executive
Melanoma UK

Liz Darlison MBE
Chief Executive Officer
Mesothelioma UK

Sophie Castell
CEO
Myeloma UK

Tony Hebdon
Chair
Neuroblastoma

Victoria Clare
CEO
Ovacome

Cary Wakefield
Chief Executive Officer
Ovarian Cancer Action

Ali Stunt
CEO
Pancreatic Cancer Action

Diana Jupp
Chief Executive
Pancreatic Cancer UK

Julie Worrall
CEO
Penny Brohn UK

Laura Kerby
Chief Executive
Prostate Cancer UK

Sarah Quinlan MBE
Charity Director
Radiotherapy UK

Mike Grundy
Deputy Chief Executive
**Roy Castle Lung Cancer
Foundation**

Richard Davidson
Chief Executive
Sarcoma UK

Gail Jackson
Chief Executive
Solving Children's Cancer

Roshani Perera
Trustee
Tackle Prostate Cancer

Annwen Jones OBE
Chief Executive
Target Ovarian Cancer

Kate Collins
Chief Executive
Teenage Cancer Trust



Graham Norton
Interim CEO
The Brain Tumour Charity



Athena Lamnisis
Chief Executive
The Eve Appeal



Ian Boyd
Executive Director
Trekstock



Nina Barough CBE
Founder & Chief Executive
Walk the Walk Worldwide



Nigel Shattock
Director of Communication &
Engagement
World Cancer Research Fund



Kathryn Scott
Chief Executive
Yorkshire Cancer Research



Rachel Kirby-Rider
Chief Executive
Young Lives Vs Cancer