# Version to be sent by post

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| [Name of MP/MSP/MS/MLA][House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA][The Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh, EH99 1SP][Welsh Parliament, Cardiff Bay, Cardiff, CF99 1SN][Northern Ireland Assembly, Parliament Buildings, Ballymiscaw, Stormont, Belfast, BT4 3XX] | [Your name][Your address][Date you send letter] |

Dear [Name of MP/MSP/MS/MLA],

**Re: Help us improve support for bladder cancer patients**

I am writing to ask that you meet with me, to discuss how the NHS and social care sector can help to better support people living with bladder cancer, their families, and carers.

Bladder cancer is the fifth most common cancer in the UK, with over 21,000 people diagnosed every year.[[1]](#footnote-2) However, the House of Commons has not debated bladder cancer since 1981,[[2]](#footnote-3)[the Scottish Parliament has never held a debate on bladder cancer] [bladder cancer remains comparatively neglected in public debate] [*delete as appropriate*] and unlike other common cancers,[[3]](#footnote-4) survival rates have not improved in three decades.[[4]](#footnote-5)

[*Insert personal experience of bladder cancer to illustrate asks and why it matters to you. Only share as much as you are comfortable with and be succinct – a few lines at most. E.g.,* I first began experiencing symptoms of bladder cancer in September 2017. However, while my GP was supportive, it took five weeks and three visits before I was referred to a urologist for further assessment, and another four weeks to receive a confirmed diagnosis.]

I would welcome the opportunity to meet with you to discuss bladder cancer in more detail and explore the actions you could take to support us in improving outcomes for bladder cancer patients.

Yours sincerely,
Name on behalf of Fight Bladder Cancer (<https://www.fightbladdercancer.co.uk/>)

# Version to be sent via email

**To: [Representative Email]**

**Subject: Help us improve support for bladder cancer patients**

Dear Name,

I live in [constituency name] and am writing to ask that you meet with me, to discuss how the NHS and social care sector can better support people living with bladder cancer, their families, and carers.

Bladder cancer is the fifth most common cancer in the UK, with over [21,000 people diagnosed](https://fightbladdercancer.co.uk/sites/default/files/downloads/My-diagnosis-counts.pdf) every year. However, the House of Commons has not [debated](https://hansard.parliament.uk/Commons/1981-01-19/debates/b69be2dd-a287-47f8-aea3-f9fbd6c6dbe7/Benzidine-BasedDyes%20-%20contribution-c2bf3f9a-afaa-4595-b834-099ebf4a23d3) bladder cancer since 1981,[[5]](#footnote-6)[the Scottish Parliament has never held a debate on bladder cancer] [bladder cancer remains comparatively neglected in public debate] [*delete as appropriate*] and [unlike other common cancers](https://www.cancerresearchuk.org/health-professional/cancer-statistics/survival/all-cancers-combined#heading-One), survival rates [have not improved](https://www.fightbladdercancer.co.uk/sites/default/files/downloads/20210518-Fight-Bladder-Cancer-Exemplar.pdf) in three decades.

[*Insert personal experience of bladder cancer to illustrate asks and why it matters to you. Only share as much as you are comfortable with, and be succinct – a few lines at most. E.g.,* I first began experiencing symptoms of bladder cancer in September 2017. However, while my GP was supportive, it took five weeks and three visits before I was referred to a urologist for further assessment, and another four weeks to receive a confirmed diagnosis.]

I would welcome the opportunity to meet with you to discuss bladder cancer in more detail and explore the actions you could take to support us in improving outcomes for bladder cancer patients.

Yours sincerely,

Name on behalf of Fight Bladder Cancer (<https://www.fightbladdercancer.co.uk/>)
Postcode

1. Fight Bladder Cancer, *My Diagnosis Counts* (2020), <https://fightbladdercancer.co.uk/sites/default/files/downloads/My-diagnosis-counts.pdf>. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. The last parliamentary debate with a substantive focus on bladder cancer was a January 1981 adjournment debate on Benzidine-Based Dyes. HC Deb (19 January 1981), vol. 997, cols. 126 - 132.
[https://hansard.parliament.uk/Commons/1981-01-19/debates/b69be2dd-a287-47f8-aea3-f9fbd6c6dbe7/Benzidine-BasedDyes - contribution-c2bf3f9a-afaa-4595-b834-099ebf4a23d3](https://hansard.parliament.uk/Commons/1981-01-19/debates/b69be2dd-a287-47f8-aea3-f9fbd6c6dbe7/Benzidine-BasedDyes#contribution-c2bf3f9a-afaa-4595-b834-099ebf4a23d3) [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. Cancer Research UK, *Cancer survival statistics for all cancers combined,* <https://www.cancerresearchuk.org/health-professional/cancer-statistics/survival/all-cancers-combined#heading-One>.  [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
4. Fight Bladder Cancer, *Exemplar Research Report* (2021), <https://www.fightbladdercancer.co.uk/sites/default/files/downloads/20210518-Fight-Bladder-Cancer-Exemplar.pdf>. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
5. The last parliamentary debate with a substantive focus on bladder cancer was a January 1981 adjournment debate on Benzidine-Based Dyes. HC Deb (19 January 1981), vol. 997, cols. 126 - 132.
[https://hansard.parliament.uk/Commons/1981-01-19/debates/b69be2dd-a287-47f8-aea3-f9fbd6c6dbe7/Benzidine-BasedDyes - contribution-c2bf3f9a-afaa-4595-b834-099ebf4a23d3](https://hansard.parliament.uk/Commons/1981-01-19/debates/b69be2dd-a287-47f8-aea3-f9fbd6c6dbe7/Benzidine-BasedDyes#contribution-c2bf3f9a-afaa-4595-b834-099ebf4a23d3) [↑](#footnote-ref-6)