

**TOM PURSGLOVE MP**  
CORBY & EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

30<sup>th</sup> January 2019

*Dear Constituent,*

**RE: PANCREATIC CANCER.**

Thank you for your recent correspondence in respect of pancreatic cancer; your comments upon which I read with great interest.

While few symptoms are displayed in the early stages of pancreatic cancer, making early diagnosis difficult, every effort is being made to improve early diagnosis and to drive up survival rates.

In February, the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) published new clinical guidelines on pancreatic cancer, providing guidance on: diagnosis; monitoring those with an inherited high risk; and management of the disease. I am confident that this guidance will ensure a quicker and more accurate diagnosis of pancreatic cancer, as well as faster referral to a specialist. Furthermore, there is work underway to achieve early diagnosis of pancreatic cancer through the use of biomarkers.

Given the low survival rates for pancreatic cancer, research into new treatments and ways to diagnose this cancer early are vital. I am encouraged that £882 million has been spent on cancer research since 2010 through the National Institute for Health Research, with annual spending on cancer research increased by over £35 million since 2010. I also recognise the indispensable contribution made by charities in driving forward research into cancer, with Cancer Research UK alone spending £27 million on pancreatic cancer over the last financial year.

These measures form just part of the NHS's ambitious wider strategy to improve cancer outcomes and save 30,000 lives per year by 2020. Following the announcement of a £20 billion real terms increase in the budget of NHS England, I am more confident than ever that the cancer strategy will achieve this aim.

In addition, locally, I regularly meet with Corby's Cancer Research UK Ambassador to discuss Cancer Research UK's campaigns and the particular needs in our area, and I strive to do so, as I feel passionately about this cause.

Once again, thank you for having taken the time to contact me and if I can ever be of any further assistance to you then please do not hesitate to contact me again.

*With best wishes*

**TOM PURSGLOVE MP**  
**MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT**  
**CORBY & EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE**

*Having lost my grandfather to the disease, you can be assured I am very passionate about this cause and want to help secure real progress in terms of care and support.*

LISTENING TO YOU - CAMPAIGNING FOR YOU  
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