



HM Treasury

1 Horse Guards Road  
London  
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The Rt Hon Sir George Howarth MP  
House of Commons  
London  
SW1A 0AA

10 December 2020

Dear Sir George,

Thank you for your correspondence dated 8 November on behalf of your constituent, [REDACTED] regarding [REDACTED] ahead of the Comprehensive Spending Review, related to the Breast Cancer Now/Cancer Research UK campaign. The Treasury has received unprecedented amounts of correspondence since the start of the coronavirus outbreak in the UK. The Chancellor of the Exchequer has asked me to write to you directly.

Cancer is a devastating disease, and I want to assure you that the Government is committed to ensuring that anyone suffering from cancer receives high quality cancer care.

Cancer patients will continue to be prioritised by the NHS and will benefit from the additional £1 billion announced at the Spending Review to begin tackling the elective backlog, enough funding for up to a million additional checks, scans, operations and treatments. This will be supported by an additional £325 million for the NHS to invest in new diagnostic machines (such as MRI and CT scanners) to improve clinical outcomes, enough funding to replace over two thirds of imaging equipment that is over 10 years old.

We agree that investing in our cancer workforce is also critical to tackling this disease. We have provided Health Education England (HEE) with £260 million next year that recognises the importance of developing the existing workforce and continuing to build the future workforce. This new funding will fund some of the biggest ever cohorts of trainee nurses and doctors. HEE will set out

individual programmes within this funding in due course, including for cancer workforce.

Medical research charities are an integral part of the United Kingdom's world-leading life sciences sector and play a crucial role in tackling cancer. The Government is continuing to monitor the impact of COVID-19 on the work of medical research charities and this year has provided a significant support package which the sector is able to access to assist with business and workforce costs. In addition, at the recent Spending Review, the Department for Health and Social Care received £1.3 billion for Research and Development. While specific allocation decisions are for Departments to make, this funding will support the wider life sciences environment – including the work of medical research charities.

These investments announced at the Spending Review are on top of the historic Long-Term Plan settlement enshrined in law which provides the NHS with an additional £6.3 billion in 2021/22.

I hope this assures you that cancer remains a key priority for this Government. Thank you again for your letter.

I hope this is helpful. If you have any questions about this reply, please email [public.enquiries@hmtreasury.gov.uk](mailto:public.enquiries@hmtreasury.gov.uk) quoting reference MC2020/41118.

Yours sincerely,

Shewly Bhuiya

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