



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

The Rt Hon Rachel Reeves MP
Chancellor of the Exchequer
HM Treasury
The Correspondence & Enquiry unit
1 Horse Guards Road
London
SW1A 2HQ

House of Commons,
London,
SW1A0AA

Our Ref: AS56216

5 June 2025

Dear Chancellor,

We are writing to you to express our disappointment to hear that the National Lung Screening Programme has not received sufficient funding for the next year of rollout. We know how important lung screening is for people in Yorkshire. A number of us, like you, visited the Yorkshire Lung Screening Trial, funded by Yorkshire Cancer Research, whilst the mobile unit was in our constituencies, where we met with participants and NHS staff who ran the trial. If the programme is rolled out in the next 5 years, as the Government has committed, it is estimated that 142,200 people in Yorkshire will receive their first lung scan, finding 3,100 lung cancers, thousands at an early stage, and saving hundreds of lives. It is now unclear how this can be achieved.

As MPs representing constituencies in Yorkshire, we are proud that evidence from the Yorkshire Lung Screening Trial (YSLT) contributed to the National Screening Committee's recommendation for a national lung screening programme. Targeted lung screening is a vital route to tackling health inequalities, improving rates of early diagnosis and saving the NHS money. Funding for this programme therefore should have been prioritised as it meets a number of the Government's aims and will play a significant role in achieving two of the NHS's big shifts: from sickness to prevention and from hospital to community.

As we understand it, the funding for the next year of rollout has not been distributed wholly according to local need and areas which have outsourced the programme have been prioritised. West Yorkshire is home to areas levels of deprivation and high smoking rates. Yet, it is estimated that in West Yorkshire and Harrogate, 2,876 fewer lung scans will take place, resulting in 63 fewer cancers being detected. We urge the Government to look at the funding for the National Lung Screening Programme to enable areas to meet the 2029 rollout deadline.

We are writing to the Health Secretary in a similar manner and look forward to your response.

Yours Sincerely,

Alex Sobel MP
Richard Burgon MP
Fabian Hamilton MP

