

17 December 2021

The Hon Michael Sukkar MP
Assistant Treasurer, Minister for Housing and Minister for Homeless, Social
and Community Housing
PO Box 6022
House of Representatives
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Via email and the Treasury consultation hub.

Dear Assistant Treasurer

Re: Federal Budget priorities 2022-23

Thank you for the opportunity to provide advice and recommendations on federal budget priorities for the 2022-23 Budget.

As you know, Lung Foundation Australia is the only national charity, and leading peak-body dedicated to supporting anyone with a lung disease, including lung cancer. Our mission is to improve lung health and reduce the impact of lung disease for all Australians. We continue working to ensure lung health is a priority for all, from promoting lung health and early diagnosis, advocating for policy change and research investment, raising awareness about the symptoms and prevalence of lung disease and championing equitable access to care.

We acknowledge the leadership role played by the Morrison Government in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, and we hope strong respiratory health and best practice care remain a priority for

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1800 654 301

Level 2, 11 Finchley St, Milton QLD 4064

PO Box 1949, Milton QLD

enquiries@lungfoundation.com.au | www.lungfoundation.com.au



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the Government. To support this, and to ensure that Australians live healthy and well, we recommend the next budget:

1. Invest \$15.4million in dedicated specialist lung cancer nurse positions across Australians
2. Increase Lung Foundation Australia's capacity to support Australians through long-COVID with an investment of \$700,000
3. Additional funding to continue piloting and testing the evidence-based and life-saving national targeted lung cancer screening program
4. Funding to target a reduction in occupational lung disease and provide support for workers with an existing condition, at \$4.66million over 3 years
5. Address research inequities through funding a dedicated MRFF Respiratory Health Mission at \$500,000 in this budget
6. Funding for the National Tobacco Strategy
7. Develop a National Strategic Action Plan for Air Quality at \$500,000

Each of these recommendations are evidence-based and we welcome the opportunity to expand on funding specifics if this will be of value. Lung Foundation Australia looks forward to working with you and the Treasurer to ensure that the lung health of Australians is appropriately funded as the benefits of preventing disease, and supporting those with disease to live well, are far reaching and have numerous benefits to the economy.

We look forward to discussing this with you further.

Yours sincerely,



Mark Brooke
Chief Executive Officer

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