## Instruction

This federal election, Lung Foundation Australia are calling for action across five priority areas to reduce the burden of lung disease and lung cancer and to protect the lung health of all Australians.

To support our efforts, below is a template you might like to use to send to your local Federal member of Parliament. We encourage you to adapt the letter to make it personal to you and your story. Sharing personal stories and your passion for the topic is a great way to get politicians behind you and advocate for change. If you wish, we can review your email and give you feedback – just email us at advocacy@lungfoundation.com.au.

You can find out who your local Federal member is and their email address [**here**](https://www.aph.gov.au/Senators_and_Members).

## Template

**Re: Election commitment to improve the lung health of Australians**

Dear [INSERT NAME: Minister/Senator/Dr/Mr/Ms/Mrs Surname],

My name is [INSERT NAME], and I am a local constituent. I am writing to you as someone [e.g. living with (insert condition) / caring for someone living with (insert condition) / who is passionate about improving the lung health of Australians]. I am writing in support of the **one in three Australians, [if applicable insert: like me / like my family member], living with a lung disease or lung cancer, and the broader community.**

Lung diseases, including lung cancer, are leading causes of death and disability in Australia, but they have consistently been underfunded compared to other prominent diseases. Did you know:

* COPD is a leading cause of preventable hospitalisations in Australia. Better management of COPD can reduce exacerbations that lead to preventable hospitalisations.
* Lung cancer remains the leading cause of cancer death in Australia. Early detection and support to navigate the diagnosis is vital and saves lives.
* Only 60% of healthcare delivery aligns to evidence-based or consensus-based guidelines, leading to delayed diagnosis and treatment. There is a need for high quality health professional education and training.
* Chronic diseases are the leading cause of death and disability in Australia. Investment in preventative health measures is highly cost-effective, yet the Australian Government consistently underspend on preventative health.
* Tobacco is still the leading cause of death and disease in Australia. Implementing a tobacco-free generation could drastically reduce 40% of lung-cancer mortality deaths.

[INSERT DETAILS OF YOUR STORY e.g. a bit about yourself and why are you passionate about advocating for better lung health and/or how these issues have impacted you]

With the Australian election coming up, I would like to take this opportunity to support Lung Foundation Australia’s advocacy asks (for more information on their election priorities, visit their website [here](https://lungfoundation.com.au/2025-federal-election-priorities/)). In particular, **I am calling for you to commit to:**

* Reduce pressure on the Australian health system by investing $1.6 million per year, over three years, in Lung Foundation Australia’s Respiratory Care Program.
* Reduce inequities in the biggest cause of cancer death in Australia by investing $5 million per year in Specialist Lung Cancer Nurses and committing to sustained investment in the National Lung Cancer Screening Program.
* Ensure high quality training for primary healthcare professionals by investing $1.7 million, over three years, in Australia’s best-practice lung health education and training program in primary care.
* Reduce the burden of chronic diseases in a cost-effective way by increasing investment in preventive health, towards 5% of the health budget.
* Promote a smoke and vape free Australia by explore a generational phase out of tobacco products and banning political donations from the tobacco industry.

These are priorities that I am passionate about. These sensible investments will see significant benefit for Australians just like me and my family.

There remains so much we can, and must, do to improve the prevention, early diagnosis, treatment, and support for Australians with a lung disease or lung cancer.

Many thanks for considering this request. I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

[INSERT NAME]