



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

T Baker,
56 Meadow Park,
Bideford,
Devon EX39 3HD

Wednesday 11th February 2009

Dear Mr Baker,

Thank you very much for your letter regarding breast cancer and the Cry Wolf campaign.

I am very sorry to hear about your daughters' breast cancer, and I thank you for raising this very important matter with me. You are entirely right to say that misdiagnosis is a major problem, particularly in younger people.

We talk a lot about 50-70 year olds in this context, and while there are many improvements to be made there- it is shocking that 3 in 10 women in England aged 50-70 are not receiving breast cancer screening every three years, even though the Government promised they would- this age group should not be focused on to the exclusion of younger women; I believe 5% of breast cancer cases occur in women younger than 40.

I would be very happy to help your campaign; if, for example, you would like to come up to London and present your petition directly to 10 Downing St, my office would be delighted to arrange this. I have also passed your letter to the Secretary of State for Health for his comments on what is being done to improve provision and reduce misdiagnosis rates. If there is any other way I can be of assistance, do let me know.

Thank you, once again, for your letter.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'G. Cox', written in a cursive style.

Geoffrey Cox, Q.C., M.P.