

Big Cancer52 Conversation, Wednesday 7th October 2026

Time	Session
10:00–11:00	Registration, networking and marketplace stalls
11:00–11:05	Welcome Jen Harrison, Director of Policy, Cancer52
11:05–11:15	Ministerial Address James Frith MP, Minister for Health Innovation, Department of Health and Social Care
11:15–11:30	Cancer52 & Less Survivable Cancers Taskforce: A shared vision for research and innovation Peter De Rosa, Senior Policy and Health Improvement Manager, Pancreatic Cancer UK
11:30–12:15	The road ahead: The future of research and innovation for rare and less common cancers • Chair: Chris Walden, CEO, Cancer52 • David Fitzgerald, Director – Policy and Strategy, NHS Cancer Programme, NHS England • Dr Rob Metcalf, Clinical Lead for Rare Cancers and Consultant Medical Consultant, The Christie NHS Foundation Trust • Dr Sara Stoneham, NIHR Rare Cancer Specialty Lead and Clinical Director of Children and Young People's Services at UCLH NHS Foundation Trust • Diana Jupp, CEO, Pancreatic Cancer UK
12:15–13:00	Breakout sessions
13:00–14:00	Lunch, networking and marketplace stalls
14:00–14:45	Breakout sessions
14:45–15:30	From research to reality: Turning commitments into better outcomes for people with rare and less common cancers • Chair: Ashley Ball-Gamble, CEO, CCLG and Chair, Cancer52 Research Working Group • Abbie Fearon, Cancer Portfolio Lead, NIHR • Office for Life Sciences – Speaker to be confirmed • Cancer Innovation Open Call, NHS England Cancer Programme – Speaker to be confirmed • Nina Pinwill, Director of Strategic Access, Pricing and Operations, Johnson & Johnson
15:30–15:55	Keynote speech Professor Kristian Helin, Chief Executive and President, Institute of Cancer Research
15:55–16:00	Close Chris Walden, CEO, Cancer52