

LETTERS FOR CHANGE

Use the template letter overleaf to begin writing your own letter to a politician.



You can adapt this to write to anyone in power at the local, regional or national level. To help your letter stand out, keep it short (one side of A4), be polite and include your name and school address so they can see that you are their constituent. As with any piece of writing, start with **RESEARCH**. Find out as much as you can about the issue you are concerned about, the science behind it and whether the politician has already done any work linked to it.

Remember to end your letter by asking them to take **ACTION** – the more specific the better! For example, would you like them to bring something up in parliament or raise it with the government department responsible for climate change, to vote in a particular way on a proposed new law, to help you campaign on a local issue, or something else?

The larger the area a politician represents, the more constituents they will have. For an MP, this can be in the tens of thousands. They may get hundreds of letters every day. But they say that personal letters (or emails) really do make a difference. The more letters and emails they receive, the better they will understand what matters to their constituents.



[Your address]

[Their address]

[Date]

Dear [name and title]

I am writing to you about plastic pollution and the urgent need to reduce the use of plastic bottles in Scotland and around the world.

[Add a few sentences about your school's personal story and what you are especially worried about. How does plastic pollution affect you and your local area now or in the future? Let them know any actions you are taking yourself.

You could also mention any scientific findings or news that have worried you.

Ask them to take action on this issue. Be specific!]

I look forward to hearing back from you.

Your name

