

*Look up the name and contact details of your MP at:* [*https://members.parliament.uk/members/Commons*](https://members.parliament.uk/members/Commons)

Dear [*name*] MP,

I am a young resident of your constituency and I wanted to get in touch with you about an issue that’s close to my heart: parks and natural spaces.

*[You could mention a local park or natural space that’s been important to you – why is it important? Have you experienced any barriers to using it in the way you want to?]*

With the comprehensive spending review coming up later this year, I am asking you to use your position to call on the government to invest in local parks and natural spaces.

These spaces have been vital during the Covid-19 pandemic, as spaces to exercise, connect with nature, and socialise with friends and family. It has been estimated that the wellbeing value associated with frequent use of parks and green spaces is worth £34.1 billion per year to the UK adult population and saves the NHS £111 million per year through a reduction in GP visits. They are also crucial to ensuring our local resilience to climate change and associated risks like heatwaves and flooding.

At the moment, however, these benefits are not spread equally. 2.78 million people don’t live within a ten-minute walk of a green space and people from ethnic minorities, people on lower incomes and disabled people are less likely to have access than other groups.

Many young people like me feel excluded by parks and natural spaces that aren’t designed with us in mind or that treat us like a problem. More investment in parks will allow them to be reimagined in a way that’s relevant to young people and all sections of the community.

*[If you’re planning an event in your local park that you would like to invite your MP to, put the details here.]*

Investment in parks and natural spaces is a social justice issue, with the potential to strengthen communities, address inequalities, boost local economies, and enhance nature and climate resilience. I would appreciate if you would share this message with your colleagues in Treasury.

Kind regards,

*[Your name]*

*[Your address – this is important so that your MP knows that you are a local constituent who needs a reply!]*