**Template letter to your local MP**

**This is a suggested template. We would recommend making your letter to your MP as personal as possible.**

*[INSERT ADDRESS]*
*Address*
*City*
*Postcode*

*Date [insert date]*

Dear *[insert MP name]*

As one of your constituents living with allergies, I am writing to urge you to support Allergy UK’s Allergy Awareness Week 2024. The focus this year is why allergies are #toobigtoignore.

The prevalence of allergies in the UK is staggering. 21 million people live with an allergic condition. That puts it at approximately 1 in 3 of your constituents who are living with an allergy and struggling to have their daily challenges of living with an allergy recognised by healthcare and education systems, industry and policymakers.

*For example, my allergic condition means/has resulted in etc. (insert here personal experiences of how your allergic condition has been ignored)*

The UK is in the global top three for highest incidence of allergy, top two for allergic eczema and joint first place for hay fever. Allergy places a significant burden on our already stretched NHS which has insufficient provision for allergy services. It is therefore no surprise that between 2002 and 2022, the UK saw a 154% rise in hospital admissions for anaphylaxis.

It’s estimated by 2026, 1 in 2 people in Europe will have at least one allergy.

Failure by policy makers to acknowledge this alarming and rapid escalation in the prevalence of allergy now, is likely to lead to bigger crisis in future. That’s why I am supporting Allergy UK’s Election Manifesto calls to

**1. Introduce at least one allergy nurse and dietitian at primary care level within each integrated care system or equivalent.** Allergy services should not be subject to a postcode lottery and this will provision will mean patients get their allergy management under control more quickly and reduce the need to use more costly secondary care services and waiting lists.

**2. Introduce national allergy register. At the moment there is no way to track allergy diagnoses and management or understand the impact of allergies.** Without this it is impossible to design effective allergy health services which will meet the needs of the population.

**3. The removal of prescription costs for those living with allergies to address the additional costs people face when managing their allergies.**

As my elected representative, please can you do the same this Allergy Awareness Week? Can you show 1 in 3 of your constituents, that for you, allergies are not too big to ignore?

Please can you consider the information that Allergy UK will be sending you on 15th April 2024 on ways you can support the allergic community in your capacity as a member of parliament? Additionally, I encourage you to reach out to Allergy UK for further information or to discuss this year’s Allergy Awareness Week efforts, and to understand their work in more detail. They can be reached on XXXXX

Thank you in advance for your consideration and support on this important issue.

Yours sincerely,

[Your Name]