

Template email for member to introduce themselves and their campaigning asks to a candidate /MP if the member doesn't have time for a visit during the election period

(contact a broad spectrum of candidates if contacting in the run up to a General Election to follow [charity and electoral law](#). For general election campaigning guidance visit locality.org.uk/our-influencing-work/general-election-guidance).

Subject: [organisation name] campaign asks

Dear [your candidate's/ MP's name],

I am writing to you on behalf of [organisation name]. We are a community organisation with a mission to [identify your cause] in [your neighbourhood / constituency name]. We work hard every day to transform lives and create a fairer place for local people. [Highlight your impact or presence in the community e.g. 'last year we supported over 100 local people']. You can find out more about our work here [organisation website].

We are writing to [your neighbourhood / constituency name] candidates at this critical time of the General Election to ensure our organisation's vital cause stays on the local political agenda, and to request your support in inspiring a wider community power revolution.

Delivering our organisation's work with limited time and resources has never been easy. Like many organisations we have recently faced challenges around [highlight key challenges e.g. cost-of-living crisis, increased demand, funding shortages]. We rely on the support of our community, including our elected representatives.

We are asking all candidates to commit to the following actions to support our work:

[insert bullet-pointed list highlighting key asks]

We also want to highlight the national context and the vital work of similar community organisations up and down the country. In the face of huge challenges, they are building thriving neighbourhoods. We believe a hopeful future lies in supporting them.

Locality is the national membership network supporting community organisations to be strong and successful. Their Manifesto, [Building Thriving Neighbourhoods](#), sets out a positive vision of where we can get to in 10 years' time, if we put

communities in charge. It seeks to achieve a **community-powered economy, preventative public services, and places and spaces for everyone.**

The government can achieve this through five big reforms to inspire a community power revolution:

1. **Introduce a Community Power Act**, to create three new community rights – to buy assets of community value, to shape public services, and to control local investment. And to create Community Covenants, new power sharing arrangements between councils and local communities.
2. **Inspire a step change in community ownership**, through a new, cross-government National Community Ownership Strategy that boosts community ownership and capacity from energy to housing to health.
3. **Put communities in charge of local economic development**, giving residents more control over local regeneration spending and radically devolving employment and skills support to the hyper-local level.
4. **Make collaboration – not competition the guiding principle of public services**, with bold reform of commissioning and shifting budgets to community-led prevention.
5. **Community-led housing and planning**, giving communities a tangible stake in their neighbourhoods by supporting the growth of community-led housing and spreading the use of neighbourhood planning.

We would be very happy to meet to discuss the best ways to support this community power revolution.

I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Kind regards,

[name]

[organisation]

[role]

[contact details]



Locality is the national membership network supporting community organisations to be strong and successful.

Unlock the power in your community with us

Locality

33 Corsham Street, London N1 6DR

0345 458 8336

Locality is the trading name of Locality (UK) a company limited by guarantee, registered in England no. 2787912 and a registered charity no. 1036460.

©Locality