How to Write to Your Local MP

Purpose of Writing to your local MP

Writing to your local Member of Parliament (MP) is an effective way to raise awareness about issues that matter to you and your community. MPs represent their communities and can influence policy, advocate for change, or escalate concerns to relevant authorities.

Find your electorate and local MP here: https://www.govt.nz/browse/engaging-with-government/members-of-parliament/

Key Structural Elements

- Formalities: Address your MP formally (e.g., Dear [Title] [Last Name] MP).
- Introduction: State who you are and why you are writing.
- Issue Description: Clearly explain the concern or issue.
- Personal Impact: Share how this issue affects you or your community.
- Request/Action: Specify what you would like the MP to do (e.g., raise the issue in Parliament, request Pharmac consider the pending application, request the government allocate funding to diabetes technology for patients with T2D).
- Closing: Thank them for their time and include your contact details.

Formatting Tips

- Keep the tone respectful and professional.
- Limit the letter to one page if possible.
- Use clear and concise language.
- Avoid jargon or overly technical terms.
- Proofread for errors.

Sample Template Letter

[Your Name]

[Your Address]

[Date]

Dear [Title] [Last Name] MP,

I am writing to you as a constituent of [Electorate Name] to express my concern about [briefly state the issue].

This issue is important because [explain why it matters and how it affects you or your community].

I respectfully request that you [state the action you would like the MP to take, e.g., raise the issue in Parliament, support a specific policy, request Pharmac review the pending application, allocate budget to diabetes technology for patients living with Type 2 diabetes].

Thank you for your time and consideration. I look forward to your response.

Yours sincerely,

[Your Name]

[Contact Details]