Dear *[Insert MP’s name]*,

My name is [*Insert your name]* and I am one of your constituents living in *[insert name of your area and postcode]*. I am writing to you today because I am incredibly concerned about the scale of the plastics crisis and the impact it’s having on the environment.

Each year, an estimated 12 million tonnes of plastics leak into the ocean, devastating ecosystems. But the negative impacts extend beyond just the marine environment; plastics also affect freshwater, climate stability, soils, and public health with widespread environmental, economic, and social impacts. Research has shown there are over 16,000 chemicals used or present in plastic and at least a quarter of those are known to be highly hazardous. These toxic chemicals have now made their way into human bodies and are linked to a higher risk of cancer, obesity and heart disease.

Globally, we are producing over 380 billion tonnes of plastic every year, and that figure is set to triple by 2060. This means that by 2050, global emissions from plastic production will account for one-fifth of the Earth’s remaining carbon budget.

It’s currently estimated that 50% of all plastics produced are single-use and the vast majority of plastic produced is not recycled: used briefly and then left to decay on the planet for hundreds of years. This has got to stop. The UK has a role to play, being one of the biggest consumers of plastic per capita and one of the biggest exporters of plastic waste in the world.

The UK government has the power to help remedy this by supporting a legally-binding target to cut global plastic production by at least 40% by 2040 in the global plastics treaty negotiations and ensuring we have a strong domestic target to match or exceed that ambition.

There are currently a number of different UK policies that relate to plastic that are in place or set to come into force – but quite often these end up being delayed or weakened. The new government has the opportunity to accelerate progress in ending plastic pollution and transition to a non-toxic circular economy for plastics.

I’m urging you to use your power to set legally binding targets to cut plastic production and consumption. Please help take action against the plastics crisis - before it’s too late.

Yours sincerely,

*[Insert your name]*