



YOUR GUIDE TO CONTACTING YOUR MP OR COUNCILLOR

WHAT IS AN MP OR COUNCILLOR?

The UK is split up into 650 different areas, each represented by an elected MP in parliament. MPs are obliged to represent everyone, included those who didn't vote for them. Similarly, Councillors represent you within council meetings and rely on public support in their roles.

HOW TO FIND OUT WHO YOUR MP OR COUNCILLOR IS?

Type your postcode into these websites:

- MP: [Find your MP](#)
- Councillor: [Find your local councillors](#)

WHAT IS AN MP OR COUNCILLOR?

An MP's main function is to represent the interests of their constituents. Therefore, if you feel you have been misrepresented, MPs are there to voice this opinion for you. MPs in particular have the power to introduce parliamentary debates on your proposition and to get your ideas heard by Government Ministers and even the Prime Minister.

HOW TO CONTACT AN OFFICIAL

Writing letters is the best way to contact an MP as they can reach your query within their own time and you will have a written record of all contact. However, MPs also hold in person surgeries where you can raise issues with them on the spot. Surgeries are a good opportunity to get a quicker response and to raise support for your initiative in front of other community members. Alternatively, many politicians are active on social media, and so platforms such as Twitter can be used to draw representatives' attention to petitions.

GENERAL ADVICE

Be direct and straight to the point to ensure your point is understandable. Remember, officials receive copious amounts of requests so you need to be informative and concise. Also, explain why the issue is important to you. Official's are all human at the end of the day and will likely have the same sympathies that you do.

