

Dear X

We/I have been watching developments about COVID-19 very closely and are, as you might imagine, really concerned.

We/I rely on wages to pay rent and we're/I am going to be earning much less over the coming months. [add more details about your work/wage situation - make it as personal as you feel comfortable to.]

We/I have been advised by the University and Government to **return home during this period** in order to successfully contain the virus, reduce the number of people dying and to ensure that the health service that we all rely on to survive, isn't completely overwhelmed.

Recently published Government guidelines state that as part of our "national effort" to respond to the COVID-19 outbreak it's "important that landlords offer support and understanding to tenants who may start to see their income fluctuate" and that this should "include accept[ing] a lower level of rent".

As you will have heard, the Government has announced a three month mortgage holiday for all landlords whose tenants are experiencing financial difficulties due to coronavirus - so that they can pass this "holiday" on to their tenants.

With millions of renters across the country in a difficult position, the Government and the National Residential Landlords Association are asking landlords to show compassion.

For these reasons, we/I kindly request a **reduction of rental payments** until the end of our/my contract. [You should work out what you can afford to pay in rent over the next 3months once you have met your basic needs such as food and medicine. You could start by offering what you can afford to pay.]

We/I hope, for ourselves and for everyone's sake, that life becomes more stable as soon as possible. Until then, it seems all we can do is be pragmatic, avoid panic, and support each other as best we can.

We/I hope you can consider this. Do let us/me know if speaking on the phone would be helpful.

We/I look forward to hearing back from you.

Best wishes,

[your name(s)]