WRITE TO YOUR MP

Updated 5/6

Who is my MP? How do I contact them?

Find your MP and their contact details from your postcode: Find MPs - MPs and Lords - UK Parliament.

The sites https://www.theyworkforyou.com/ and https://www.writetothem.com/ also provide portals for writing to your MPs, but they block duplicate messages.

What do I say?

Demand that they:

- immediately suspend UK sales of teargas, riot shields and rubber bullets to the US
    - News update 5th June: 166 MPs from all parties call for this suspension! (source)
- condemn President Trump's handling of the protests and his use of force against citizens
- ~~(release the now delayed report into BAME deaths during the Covid-19 pandemic)~~ NOW RELEASED
- seek justice for Belly Mujinga

Further resources on BLM UK

- Black Lives Matter by @perkin_amalaraj (also contains a sample letter demanding MP accountability for UK racism)
- Practical checklist by @_nmtr (petitions, email templates, open letters, education and more)

Sample letter - US actions

- Additional example by @monicaheisey can be found here.
- Example with additional Scottish references for MSPs by @tristangrayedi can be found here.
- Example focused on stopping exports by @claresiobhan can be found here.

Consider altering or chopping and changing several of these letters together in order to evade spam filters MPs may have in place.

Dear [MP],

I write to you as a resident of [CONSTITUENCY] concerning the state of current affairs as regards the global mistreatment of black people.

I was shocked and alarmed to see that the President of the United States recently called for military intervention on US soil and encouraged his citizens to bear arms in order to combat the protests that have been taking place across America. This is just another step in his continued violent suppression of black Americans as they demonstrate against the unjust killing of George Floyd.

In light of US leadership's condoning of police brutality, **I call upon you and the UK government to condemn President Trump's use of force against his own people**.

In addition, I add my voice to those of the 166 MPs who have written to **ask that you move to suspend UK sales of tear gas, riot shields, and rubber bullets to the US**, as we see each of these used in increasingly cruel ways to deprive Americans of their right to protest.

Closer to home, I am sure that you are aware that sister demonstrations regarding the fact that Black Lives Matter have been taking place across the UK. As a country, we also need to acknowledge our role in unjust deaths of black individuals, and push for the fair and just treatment of black British residents. **Following the publication of the report on disproportionate BAME deaths in the COVID-19 pandemic, I urge you to push for answers and address the systems that have allowed black (and other minority ethnic) people to suffer.**

I hope that I can count on you - trust that I will be in contact regarding further instances of injustice when and if they arise.

Yours sincerely,

[NAME]
[YOUR FULL ADDRESS]

Sample letter - Justice for Belly Mujinga

Additional sample letter with extensive references here.

Dear [MP NAME],

I am a resident of [CONSTITUENCY] and have been for [LENGTH].

I write further to my previous email regarding Black Lives Matter with a specific demand for justice for Belly Mujinga, a railway ticket office worker who contracted COVID-19 and subsequently died. I am sure you are aware that Mujinga, a key worker, was spat on by a member of the public claiming he was infectious on March 21.

Despite this event taking place, a spokesperson for British Transport Police has recently stated that they will take no further action into the case, given that the "tragic death of Belly Mujinga was not a consequence of this incident."

However, in Glasgow, a man who spat at a police officer and joked about coronavirus has been jailed for twelve months.

I recognise that there may be legal differences between each of the four nations, but it is unconscionable to me that there is such a gulf between the consequences of these two actions. Regardless of whether illness may or may not be attributed to the assault, it is an assault nonetheless, and an assault that in the case of Belly Mujinga has not been given due weight.

I find this especially troubling following the report published into disproportionate BAME deaths due to COVID-19, and ask whether Belly Mujinga - a Congolese woman with underlying health issues, who was reportedly scared for her life - was a victim of a poor response to the coronavirus pandemic on the part of British authorities.

I urge the UK government to seek to reopen the investigation into the assault on Belly Mujinga.

Yours sincerely,
[NAME HERE]
[FULL ADDRESS HERE]