# Template Letter to your Local MP about Headway

Guidance:

* Please complete sections in red
* Delete red text and cut and paste content into an email
* If you need help to find who your local MP is please go to <https://members.parliament.uk/FindYourMP>

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Your name

Your address

Name of MP

Email

Dear XXXXX

I am a [brain injury survivor or relative/carer/friend of a brain injury survivor] and I live in your constituency. [Give details of who sustained the injury, how it was sustained and about the effects of the injury].

[I am/we are] supported by Headway [area] and used to regularly attend their sessions prior to the outbreak of COVID-19. Since lockdown they have gone above and beyond to support [me/us] and other brain injury survivors and their family and friends in our area. They have supported [me/us] by [give details about how they have supported you in lockdown].

Without the support they provide [my or my relative’s/friend’s] rehabilitation would have been seriously impacted. As a charity, they are under significant financial pressure at the moment and I am worried that they may not recover from the repercussions of this pandemic.

The services they deliver will only be there if our council continues to commission them.

With the impact of COVID-19, some councils are suggesting they meet the criteria to issue a section 114 notice, effectively declaring themselves bankrupt.

The investigation conducted by the BBC[[1]](#footnote-1) also revealed 148 local authorities across the country predict a budget shortfall this financial year. Put simply, many may not have the funding available to support their services, including adult social care.

A recent report by the Association of Directors of Adult Social Services (ADASS) suggests that without significant additional support from the government, the lives of people who use social care will be seriously impacted. Only 4% of the Directors of Social Care from councils across England are confident that their budgets in 2020/21 are sufficient to meet statutory duties[[2]](#footnote-2).

ADASS is now calling for a two-year ring-fenced funding settlement for adult social care and I hope you are able to back these calls.

If our council is unable to continue to commission the specialist support and rehabilitation services Headway provides, [I/we] would lose the vital support [I/we] rely on.

That is why I’m asking you to support calls for local authorities to be funded sustainably, to maintain service provision and prevent them from declaring bankruptcy.

I hope you are able to help me support Headway, so I know they will be there to support [me/us] in the future.

I look forward to your earliest reply.

Yours sincerely,

[Name]

1. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-53069772> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. <https://www.adass.org.uk/media/7973/no-embargo-adass-budget-survey-report.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-2)