**#SomeWomenNeedToWalk – Join the campaign**

Government needs to step in to provide safe emergency accommodation to those experiencing domestic abuse in lockdown. Add your voice to the #SomeWomenNeedToWalk campaign by:

* Writing to your MP/AM – you can use the sample email below
* Sharing why you support the campaign on social media using #SomeWomenNeedToWalk and tagging @womenneedtowalk on Twitter and Instagram
* Sending a copy of this letter to your local newspaper to let them know you need support

Thank you so much for offering to write to your MP. We’re extremely grateful - every letter makes a difference. We’ve put a template on how you could write to your MP below, but this week, we’re adding on an extra or alternative ask - please would you write a letter to Robert Jenrick MP as well or even instead of your MP. The reason is – on the 2nd May, the government announced a funding package for domestic abuse, but it’s not clear where the money is going. Helplines are wonderful, but we also want to make sure that enough money is going for emergency accommodation for those women who need to walk -  and we can only do that by persuading Robert Jenrick.  You can email Robert Jenrick with the same template below, and send it to robert.jenrick.mp@parliament.uk

How to draft an email to your MP/AM

Your MP/AM  will be much more likely to respond the more personal your email is.  If you don’t have time to write a full email yourself you can simply follow the structure of the email below.  Or even better you can give their office a call and use the structure below to share your experiences.

All you need to convey is why this matters for you, that survivors will be needing support in their constituency and that they can help by asking the Chancellor to fund emergency accommodation.  You don’t need to know all the details but if you want to call and are interested you can find more details about the campaign on our website.

If you don’t know who you MP/AM is visit [www.theyworkforyou.com](http://www.theyworkforyou.com) to find their details.

Please do let us know by emailing womenneedtowalk@gmail.com so that we know which MPs have been contacted and do let us know if you get a response offering help.

Draft email structure

**Draft email structure**

Dear XX

I’m writing to you because I am very concerned about the increase in domestic abuse happening under lockdown.  This matters to me because …… [give reasons for why this matters e.g. experience of your friends and family, experience of supporting people experiencing domestic abuse, or that you believe home should be safe for everyone etc…]

It is great that the government has offered to provide additional funding to support those who need it most. **But, I am writing to you because clarity is needed on how this money will be spent.** Before this crisis, 3 out of 5 women were being turned away from refuges due to lack of space. Under lock down, domestic abuse rates are soaring and yet for many families, there is nowhere to go.  This is why I’ve joined the #SomeWomenNeedToWalk campaign asking for emergency accommodation now.

[insert relevant facts/statistics/ experiences about why this matters to you here, e.g. Refuge have seen a 700% increase in calls to their helpline, twice as many women as normal have been killed by their partner under lockdown, 1.95million people in the UK experienced domestic abuse last year – those people are now locked in with their abusers]

I know that hotels have offered to provide accommodation at cost for those needing to leave abusive situations – but this hasn’t been taken up.  The government advice says that women can leave, but how can they leave if they’ve got nowhere to go?  [If you want you can link to this article or find out more about this in the independent here:<https://www.independent.co.uk/voices/domestic-violence-abuse-refuge-accommodation-hotels-priti-patel-uk-a9475776.html> ].

That’s why I’m writing to you

**Please can you help women to access emergency accommodation now by committing that the £76 million you announced will include spending on housing women and children escaping domestic abuse in emergency accommodation**?

If you’d like to find out more about the campaign and other ways you can support it you can visit [www.loveandpower.co.uk](http://www.loveandpower.co.uk/) for more information or you can contact me at ….. [give your contact details].

All the best,

[your name]