[Your name]

[Your address]

[MP address]

[date]

Dear [MP name]

I am very concerned about the changes to the Blue Badge eligibility criteria which come into force in January 2019. As a Blue Badge user with a disability that affects my mobility, it is very important to me that this scheme works properly as I rely on it to access the shops, attend my hospital appointments and generally live an independent life. If all the Blue Badge bays are taken it makes my life very difficult as I need a wide space to open my car door and I can only walk a very short distance.

What concerns me about these changes is that the number of Blue Badge holders is going to dramatically increase. I already find it difficult to find a disabled parking bay because there are not enough to go around and because the scheme is poorly enforced. With more Blue Badge holders coming on the scheme in 2019 I can see it having a disastrous impact on the availability of disabled bays in [your town of city].

I am a member of the charity Disabled Motoring UK The charity magazine keeps me up-to-date on new legislation and they are also gravely concerned about this change to the scheme and its practical impact on parking. They urged the government in their response to the consultation to first make sure the scheme is properly enforced in all areas of the country before it was extended, but their concerns have been ignored.

I personally would like to see Blue Badge misuse and abuse being tackled properly by Blue Badge Enforcement teams and where caught abusers being brought before the courts to face the consequences of their actions. Just issuing parking tickets is not enough of a deterrent as people who abuse the system can avoid parking charges for months. Unfortunately there are only a few local authorities that seem to take Blue Badge abuse seriously and I would be interested to know what is being done in [your city/town] to stop abuse of the Blue Badge scheme. Also given the increase in the number of Blue Badge holders will the government be putting pressure on local authorities to increase the provision of disabled parking bays?

I also enclose a copy of the press release issued by Disabled Motoring UK in response to the changes.

Yours sincerely

[Your name]