<YOUR NAME>

<ADDRESS>

<NAME OF MP>

House of Commons

London

SW1A 0AA

<DATE>

Dear <NAME OF MP>

As a constituent of <CONSTITUENCY NAME>, I am writing to ask you to write to Highways England requesting a full safety review of the A34 be conducted as soon as possible, with full public disclosure of the results. Furthermore, I wish for you to support our commitment to making changes to the A34 dual carriageway, to ensure safety is improved; to reduce the array of incidents ranging from tailbacks from break downs, to fatal injury.

I am a supporter and ambassador for the changes desired along the A34, which is demonstrated through my involvement in the A34 Action Group. This collaboration is a varied group of volunteers who have collated their concerns regarding the A34 during meetings and discussion - all of who would like to see changes made to improve safety of the road. We have a combination of experienced HGV drivers, car drivers, and motorcyclists, who have been personally affected by tragedies on the road, have experienced issues whilst driving, or travel on it regularly and want something to be done to ensure their safety and everyone else’s.

I welcome the Government’s commitment to support the proposal for making the A34 safer, with statistics showing that more than 1,800 collisions on the Oxfordshire stretch have claimed 56 lives over almost two decades and left thousands injured. This is not including more recent statistics of 2016. Records dating back more than 30 years, chronicle decades of congestion, accident black-spots and numerous safety campaigns but figures revealed show the shocking reality – prompting our urgent call for action. 79,000+ vehicles use the Oxfordshire stretch of the key link road every day and since 1994 a total of 2,040 collisions have been recorded claiming 56 lives, leaving 278 people seriously injured and 2,600 with minor injuries. With the most recent incidents resulting in the loss of 5 lives in 2 months.

I am concerned that previous petitions, dated back to the 1980s, have not been acknowledged or considered and I feel that now is the time for community and societal concerns to be heard, highlighted, and for action to be taken. It should not take any more deaths or injury for implementation of better safety control on the A34.

In 2005, the UK Government granted there would be millions in order to improve the A34, by 2016. There have been many traumatic events on the A34 and Highways England has not provided adequate prevention strategies.

I am sure that, like me, you have been saddened to hear media reports of increasing fatalities, injury and issues in recent weeks*.* I believe that showing solidarity we can propose, discuss and make the changes to ensure those who travel on the road feel safe and not in the fear that they, or their loved ones, may not return home from a journey on the A34. Please will you therefore take a lead in this need for change, by urging our Government to support our venture, to ensure local residents and those travelling along the road feel safe and not in danger of being involved in any incidents.

I call for any changes that will mitigate the impact and severity of future accidents, and stop their frequency altogether. Such potential changes highlighted by members of the group include:

- a reduction in speed; enforced through the use of average speed cameras – to increase reaction time, allow more time for HGVs to overtake, and enable joining traffic from slip roads to merge at a safe speed;

- vegetation on verges and around road signs to be cut back to improve visibility of traffic joining from slip roads, and awareness of risks ahead;

- changes to the design and location of bay parking / rest areas – adequate facilities for freight drivers to get a decent rest and be able to safely access the carriageway;

- changes to the design of the slip roads – increasing the length of some slip roads that are currently not suitable for the flow of traffic;

- cement central reservation – to ensure any accidents on one carriageway do not impact drivers travelling in the opposite direction, and are not involved in head-on-collisions with a greater combined speed;

- clearer signage (especially for those who do not know the road) – to highlight localised risks and any road-specific hazards (gradients, narrow / obscured slip road access);

- widening the road – either through the addition of crawler lanes where suitable, or a ‘hard shoulder’ to allow safe refuge for broken down / damaged vehicles.

All of the above options would demonstrate the Government’s commitment.

I ask you to write to Highways England to ask for a commitment to help design and implement a comprehensive strategy for improving the safety of the A34.

The A34 Action Group meets on a regular basis for discussion and updates and we would like you to be aware of the times and dates of when these will take place. I would be grateful if you were able to keep me informed of any response you receive, I also personally extend an invite to the action group meetings.

Should you require further information please do not hesitate to contact me.

I look forward to hearing from you and hope you will support our incentive.

Yours sincerely

<YOUR NAME>

<YOUR CONTACT DETAILS>