Dear {name of candidate}

**It is time to get it right**

As a voter in this constituency and a member of the British Association of Social Workers (BASW) I’m writing to share BASW’s manifesto ahead of the election of the next UK Parliament and to ask you whether you will stand up for social workers if you’re elected to be my Member of Parliament?

Social workers are integral to providing support for those with additional or complex needs, but social workers need support themselves to effectively provide the services that people depend on.

BASW has published a manifesto – *Time to Get it Right* – which includes forty policy actions for MPs to take forward after the election, covering issues from tackling poverty and protecting human rights, to scrapping harmful anti-immigration laws, reforming mental health legislation and better funding children’s social care.

It also includes strong calls for the next UK Government to better support, resource and value the social work profession, by introducing a review into caseloads, reforming student bursary support, increasing mileage allowance payments and working with BASW to establish a social work workforce strategy that prioritises recruitment and retention.

**BASW’s full manifesto can be found here:**[**https://new.basw.co.uk/policy-and-practice/resources/general-election-2024-manifesto-uk**](https://new.basw.co.uk/policy-and-practice/resources/general-election-2024-manifesto-uk)

The social work profession continues to be under significant pressure, brought on by a lack of funding and resources, recruitment and retention challenges, and increasing demand on services due to the cost-of-living crisis and rising poverty levels. This is putting social workers in an impossible position, in turn taking a serious toll on their mental health and wellbeing. It is not a sustainable situation.

The next UK Government cannot afford not to get this right.

As my local candidate in this election, I ask that you support BASW’s manifesto asks in the next parliament should you be elected as an MP on 4 July and commit to working with BASW to deliver them. You can contact BASW’s Public Affairs Lead, Kerri Prince on kerri.prince@basw.co.uk

I would also welcome the opportunity to meet with you to discuss further how you can best support the social work profession as my representative in the next parliament.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

BASW Member

(Include your address)