**This letter is only a guideline – we would encourage you to make it your own by including information specific to your experience.**

Dear [**INSERT NAME OF MP],**

I am a constituent in your area and I am concerned about the ongoing consultation from the Department for Transport in relation to the use of Section 19 & 22 permits, and how this may affect my local community. **[Use this as an opportunity to expand your explanation if you know people who use community transport services (transport run by not-for-profit organisations)]**.

On 31st July 2017, the Department for Transport issued a public letter indicating that their previously accepted interpretation of exemptions to EU regulation 1071/2009 no longer stood. The Department has since attempted to clarify their position in this letter in a further two letters, a Transport Select Committee Inquiry and now a Department Consultation in which they propose guidance as to how their new interpretation should apply. The consultation is open until **11.45pm on Friday 4th May**. This guidance, if implemented as it currently stands, threatens the operations of thousands of not-for-profit organisations who deliver transport, including those the Department explicitly said would not be affected.

The proposed changes are likely to mean that my local community members, and your constituents, of all ages, will be less able to access services, amenities and opportunities in our community. As for many organisations who currently provide transport services, the costs of compliance with the proposed changes will be impossible to meet and they will not be able to continue their services. I am concerned the proposals neglect my local community members, leaving them to susceptible to isolation, loneliness and in some cases, unable to live independently.

**[INSERT YOUR OWN VIEWS AND EXPERIENCES HERE]**

So far, there has been wide, cross-party support for the community transport sector during this difficult time and we are thankful to all MPs who have raised questions, met with their local community transport operator and continued to support the sector. If you would like a more detailed briefing on the situation, please e-mail hello@ctauk.org for a copy.

I believe we must put pressure on the DfT to rethink the path they are currently on.

Therefore, I am asking that:

1. **You show your support on social media.** You can use the hashtag **#withoutCT**
2. **Attend the Westminster Hall debate on Thursday 10th May at 1:30pm.** Lillian Greenwood MP, chair of the Transport Select Committee, has secured a debate in Westminster following the TSC report on Community Transport (<https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201719/cmselect/cmtrans/480/48002.htm>)
3. **You talk to your local community transport operator.** As a concerned member of the publicin your constituency I want to highlight the essential work that community transport operators do to benefit the community / people like me. You can contact **[IF YOU KNOW A LOCAL COMMUNITY TRANSPORT OPERATOR, INSERT THEIR NAME AND CONTACT DETAILS HERE]**

If the Department continues down this path, the effects will be devastating to thousands of community transport service users across the country, and we value your support in keeping this issue at the forefront of the minds of Ministers in the Department.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter.

Regards,

**[INSERT SIGNATURE/ NAME]**