Date 2021

Dear *name of* *Member of Parliament* (You can find your local MP [here](https://members.parliament.uk/FindYourMP))

I am writing to you regarding the [withdrawal of home birth services/closure of the midwifery-led birth centre] at [name of Trust/Board]. I am currently xx weeks pregnant, and having thought carefully about what is best for myself and my baby, it was my informed decision to give birth [at home/in the birth centre. I am [devastated/very upset/very anxious] that this option is no longer available to me as… [please add why this choice is important to you]

Human rights law gives individuals the right to enjoy a private and family life. This means I have the right to choose the circumstances of my birth, including where to give birth. This right can only be restricted where there is a legitimate aim such as protecting the health of others and where the restriction is proportionate. The Royal College of Midwives and the Royal College of Obstetricians also published [guidance](https://www.rcm.org.uk/media/3893/2020-04-17-guidance-for-provision-of-midwife-led-settings.pdf) during the pandemic which makes clear the benefits of home birth and midwifery led settings and sets out thresholds in terms of staff shortages for when withdrawing services might be appropriate.

**I ask you to ensure that [name of Trust/Board] are following the RCOG/RCM guidance, [have shared the risk assessment underpinning their decision – *if not already published on Trust/Board website*], have confirmed how regularly the decision is being reviewed, and that the service will be brought back as soon as possible.**

I look forward to your urgent response.

Yours sincerely,