Your address 1
Your address 2
Postcode

Dear [insert name of MP / MSP / MS or MLA],

The Royal Osteoporosis Society is about to launch a joint campaign with the Sunday Express to end the postcode lottery for Fracture Liaison Services (FLS).

Half of women over 50 – and a fifth of men – suffer fractures (broken bones) due to osteoporosis. This can happen after minor day-to-day occurrences, such as a cough, a fall from standing height or a hug from grandchildren. These fractures are the fourth greatest cause of years lost to premature death and disability. As many people die from fracture-related causes as from lung cancer or diabetes.

[Insert sentence on your personal experience of osteoporosis and fractures]

Excellent therapies are available that can keep bones strong and prevent fractures. But across the UK, 90,000 people are missing out on them due to the postcode lottery for FLS.

Quality FLS are the gold standard for preventing fractures and helping people like me to live well with osteoporosis. They allow for a fast diagnosis and proper monitoring and follow-up from medics to help people stick to their treatment plan.

It’s not fair that two-thirds of people with osteoporosis are missing out on the treatment they need. A tenth of hip fractures could be prevented if we all have the same access to FLS.

The Sunday Express is about to launch a campaign with the Royal Osteoporosis Society to persuade the four Governments across the UK to improve the population coverage and quality of FLS.

I’m writing to ask that you, as my elected representative, allow me to add your name to the list of supporters of the campaign (the mission statement for which I have included below). This is something I feel strongly about, and I would welcome your support.

It’s not right that a quarter of people with the condition suffer three or more fractures before finally getting a diagnosis. I hope you can help us change this - both for their benefit, and to free up beds being taken up in the NHS on correcting injuries which could have been prevented.

Yours sincerely,

[Insert name]

***Campaign mission statement****: “We want everyone over 50 to have access to a quality Fracture Liaison Service.  Osteoporosis affects half of women over 50 and a fifth of men.  Preventing it is particularly important for women during the perimenopause.*

*Effective therapies exist, but the postcode lottery for Fracture Liaison Services means 90,000 people per year are missing out on treatment.  The result is tens of thousands of preventable spinal and hip fractures, which are life-changing for people and costly for the NHS.*

*By front-ending just 1.5% of the amount we spend on treating hip fracture patients into prevention through Fracture Liaison Services, the Governments of the UK can stop a tenth of those hip fractures from happening.*

*Beating osteoporosis will remove one of the most urgent threats to people – particularly women - living well in later life”.*