[Date] [Your address]

**Recognising cycles as a mobility aid**

Dear [Insert MP’s name e.g. Mr Coyle]

As one of your constituents, I am writing to ask you to help improve the recognition and rights of Disabled cyclists.

[Recent research](https://wheelsforwellbeing.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/Survey-report-FINAL.pdf) by inclusive cycling charity Wheels for Wellbeing has shown that the majority of Disabled cyclists find cycling easier than walking, with three-quarters using their cycle as a mobility aid – just like a wheelchair or mobility scooter. And yet cycles are not recognised in law in this way, which creates many difficulties for Disabled cyclists. For instance, Disabled cyclists are often asked to dismount and walk their cycle, even though they are using it as a mobility aid and despite the fact that for some it is physically impossible to do so. Usually, this occurs on footways or in pedestrianised areas, where mobility scooters are allowed but cycles and cycling are not. This discourages Disabled people from cycling and unfairly penalises them for leading active, healthy, independent lifestyles.

As my local MP, would you be willing to write to the Secretary of State for Transport asking him to consider changes to legislation, in order to remove this unnecessary barrier for Disabled cyclists? Specifically, I believe the following measures could improve the situation:

1. Amending the Use of Invalid Carriages on Highways Regulations (UICHR) 1988 to **legally recognise the use of cycles as a mobility aid**
2. Piloting and implementing a **Disabled cyclist’s ‘Blue Badge’ scheme**, giving Disabled cyclists certain rights and exemptions
3. Launching a **public information campaign** to raise awareness of the fact that many Disabled people can and do cycle, and use their cycle as a mobility aid

If you are able to apply pressure on the Minister in this way I would be most grateful. Until such steps are taken, Disabled people will continue to be put off cycling and will inevitably revert to more sedentary forms of travel.

I look forward to hearing your response.

Kind regards,

[Your name]