Dear [insert the name of your MP],

I am writing to you [once again] as one of your constituents because I am gravely concerned by the Nationality and Borders Bill, which will be legislated in coming weeks.

The horrific situation unfolding in Ukraine has once again shone the spotlight on the UK Government’s woeful refugee protection system and attempts, through the forthcoming Nationality and Borders Bill, to criminalise any individual – including Ukrainians – who travel to the UK via any means possible to claim asylum.

The right to asylum is enshrined in the 1951 Refugee Convention and the Nationality and Borders Bill is a blatant attempt to try to stop people from being able to do so. The incomprehensible war being waged against Ukraine by Vladimir Putin has painfully shown the world *why* people need to seek sanctuary. The civil wars in Syria, Yemen and Ethiopia, and the ongoing devastating reality for people in Afghanistan have done likewise. Despite this, our Government has consistently attempted to make it harder and harder for people to seek sanctuary in the UK.

Yet compassion has prevailed and on the 28th February the House of Lords voted to reject Clause 11 of the Nationality and Borders Bill, which would criminalise people arriving in the UK to seek asylum by any means possible, placing them at risk of destitution, detention and deportation. The Lords have delivered a powerful message to the Government – one that shows that criminalising refugees is an abhorrent proposal that must be rejected.

I am writing to you to ask that you also vote to reject Clause 11 of the Bill when it returns to Parliament, and to show your compassion and solidarity to the people of Ukraine and to those people in countries and territories around the world whose lives are afflicted by conflict, war and persecution. Their right to, and need of, sanctuary is paramount.

In hope and with thanks,

Yours sincerely,

[Insert your full name]