**Template letters to elected representatives**

**England**

To celebrate Foster Care Fortnight, Jess Asato MP has tabled an Early Day Motion (EDM) recognising the importance of foster care and the need for adequate support, training and resources for foster carers. An EDM is a motion in Parliament used primarily to draw attention to specific events or campaigns. Below is a template email which you can adapt to send to your MP to ask them to sign the EDM, or to thank them for signing it if they have done so already.

You can find your MP [here](https://members.parliament.uk/FindYourMP) and check if they have signed the Early Day Motion on Foster Care Fortnight [here](https://edm.parliament.uk/early-day-motion/63511/foster-care-fortnight), under ‘Signatures’.

***Text for MPs who have not signed the EDM***

Dear [MP name]

I am writing to ask you to show your support for Foster Care Fortnight, the UK’s biggest foster care awareness raising campaign, running from 12 to 25 May 2025. The theme of the campaign this year is ‘The Power of Relationships’, because at the heart of every fostering journey are the connections that make all the difference.

I would really appreciate if you could sign up to Early Day Motion 1138 in support of Foster Care Fortnight:

*That this House celebrates Foster Care Fortnight from May 12 to May 25 in its aim to raise awareness about fostering and highlight the transformative role of foster carers; recognises the importance of foster care for providing children who are unable to live with their families with a safe, stable and loving home; urges the Government to commit to a dedicated national foster care strategy to recruit more foster carers and improve commissioning processes to get children in the right home for them the first time; further urges Ministers to acknowledge the outstanding contribution of foster carers, including those approved for by both local authorities and independent fostering agencies, and to ensure they have continued access to the support, training and resources needed to provide the highest standard of care for vulnerable children; and encourages all hon. Members to promote Foster Care Fortnight and engage with their local authority and providers to raise awareness of the vital work they do.*

I also wanted to draw your attention to The Fostering Network’s new recruitment targets which provide an estimation of the number of foster families needed across the UK. This year the charity has estimated that around 6,000 new foster families are needed across the UK in the next year alone. You can find the targets for each nation of the UK and a regional breakdown for England [here](https://www.thefosteringnetwork.org.uk/about-fostering/for-fostering-services/recruitment-and-retention/fostering-recruitment-targets/). This research demonstrates the urgent need for more foster carers to ensure children and young people are looked after in their communities by carers who can meet their individual needs.

I would be very grateful if, along with supporting the EDM, you could amplify the campaign further by sharing it on social media. Social media assets are available from The Fostering Network [here](https://www.thefosteringnetwork.org.uk/get-involved/foster-care-fortnight/resources-for-services/).

Best wishes,

[Your name]

***Text for MPs who have signed the EDM***

Dear [MP name]

I am writing to thank you for signing the Early Day Motion to celebrate Foster Care Fortnight 2025. As you will know, Foster Care Fortnight is the UK’s biggest foster care awareness raising campaign and is running from 12-25 May 2025. The theme this year is ‘The Power of Relationships’, because at the heart of every fostering journey are the connections that make all the difference.

As your constituent, I was grateful to see you supporting the transformative work of foster carers in Parliament, and was particularly encouraged to see the EDM recognise the importance of proper support, training and resources for foster carers.

I also wanted to draw your attention to The Fostering Network’s new recruitment targets which provide an estimation of the number of foster families needed across the UK. This year the charity has estimated that around 6,000 new foster families are needed across the UK in the next year alone. You can find the targets for each nation of the UK and a regional breakdown for England [here](https://www.thefosteringnetwork.org.uk/about-fostering/for-fostering-services/recruitment-and-retention/fostering-recruitment-targets/). This research demonstrates the urgent need for more foster carers to ensure children and young people are looked after in their communities, by carers who can meet their individual needs.

I would really appreciate it if you could amplify the campaign further by sharing it on social media. Social media assets are available from The Fostering Network [here](https://www.thefosteringnetwork.org.uk/get-involved/foster-care-fortnight/resources-for-services/).

Thank you again for your support for foster families.

Best wishes,

[Your name]

**Wales**

Everyone who lives in Wales is represented by a Member of the Senedd (MS) for their constituency and four MSs for their electoral region. You can write to any or all of the five MSs that represent you. Find your MSs [here](https://senedd.wales/find-a-member-of-the-senedd/).

***Email text***

Dear [MS name]

I am writing to ask you to show your support for Foster Care Fortnight, the UK’s biggest foster care awareness raising campaign, running from 12 to 25 May 2025. The theme of the campaign this year is ‘The Power of Relationships’, because at the heart of every fostering journey are the connections that make all the difference.

The Fostering Network has calculated that around 300 new foster families are needed in Wales in the next year alone. You can find out more about these recruitment targets [here](https://www.thefosteringnetwork.org.uk/about-fostering/for-fostering-services/recruitment-and-retention/fostering-recruitment-targets/). I would really appreciate it if you could share the campaign on social media to highlight the urgent need for more foster carers, and to recognise the incredible contribution of foster families across the country. Social media assets are available from The Fostering Network [here](https://www.thefosteringnetwork.org.uk/get-involved/foster-care-fortnight/resources-for-services/).

You should also have received an invitation from The Fostering Network to their event at the Pierhead building on Tuesday 20 May. The event will feature an opening address from the Minister for Children and Social Care Dawn Bowden MS, the launch of the State of the Nations’ Foster Care: Spotlight on Wales report, an animation created in partnership with young people from NYAS Cymru, and a panel discussion with stakeholders from across the sector. I hope you will attend this as a demonstration of your support for foster families.

Best wishes,

[Your name]

**Scotland**

Everyone who lives in Scotland is represented by a Member of the Scottish Parliament (MSP) for their constituency and seven MSPs for their electoral region. You can write to any or all of your eight MSPs. Find your MSPs [here](https://www.parliament.scot/msps).

***Email text***

Dear [MSP name]

I am writing to ask you to show your support for Foster Care Fortnight, the UK’s biggest foster care awareness raising campaign, running from 12 to 25 May 2025. The theme of the campaign this year is ‘The Power of Relationships’, because at the heart of every fostering journey are the connections that make all the difference.

The Fostering Network has [calculated](https://www.thefosteringnetwork.org.uk/about-fostering/for-fostering-services/recruitment-and-retention/fostering-recruitment-targets/) that around 350 new foster families are needed in Scotland in the next year alone. On Monday, marking the first day of Foster Care Fortnight, the Scottish Government launched a national foster carer recruitment campaign to help address this shortfall of carers. I would really appreciate it if you could share the campaign on social media to highlight the urgent need for more foster carers, and to recognise the incredible contribution of foster families across the country. Social media assets are available from The Fostering Network [here](https://www.thefosteringnetwork.org.uk/get-involved/foster-care-fortnight/resources-for-services/) and you can find the Scottish Government’s foster carer recruitment page [here](https://fostercare.campaign.gov.scot/).

I also hope you will take any opportunities presented by the forthcoming Children and Young People (Care) (Scotland) Bill, due for introduction before the summer recess, to advocate for foster families and encourage the Scottish Government to take action to improve the retention of foster carers. With over 400 fostering households resigning last year in Scotland, it’s crucial that the right support, training and resources are available to carers and their families.

Best wishes,

[Your name]

**Northern Ireland**

In Northern Ireland, each constituency area is represented by five Members of the Legislative Assembly (MLAs). You can write to any or all of the five MLAs for your constituency. Find your MLAs [here](https://www.niassembly.gov.uk/your-mlas/locate-your-mla2/).

***Email text***

Dear [MLA name]

I am writing to ask you to show your support for Foster Care Fortnight, the UK’s biggest foster care awareness raising campaign, running from 12 to 25 May 2025. The theme of the campaign this year is ‘The Power of Relationships’, because at the heart of every fostering journey are the connections that make all the difference.

The Fostering Network has calculated that around 400 new foster families are needed in Northern Ireland in the next year alone. You can find out more about these recruitment targets [here](https://www.thefosteringnetwork.org.uk/about-fostering/for-fostering-services/recruitment-and-retention/fostering-recruitment-targets/). I would really appreciate it if you could share the campaign on social media to highlight the urgent need for more foster carers, and to recognise the incredible contribution of foster families across the country. Social media assets are available from The Fostering Network [here](https://www.thefosteringnetwork.org.uk/get-involved/foster-care-fortnight/resources-for-services/).

Best wishes,

[Your name]