[Title first name surname] MP

House of Commons

London

SW1A 0AA

[Date]

Dear [title surname],

The performing arts are battling for survival at a time when theatre matters more than ever. As my local MP, I call on you to support them and fight for their future.

Arts and culture make a real difference in our borough, nurturing and engaging young people, opening dialogues that would not otherwise happen, and allowing people to experience stories and points of view from other cultures and communities. They also make a powerful contribution to the nation as a whole, adding £7.7 billion to the UK economy for less than 0.1% of Government funding in England. They incubate the talent that drives the commercial creative industries, one of the fastest growing parts of the UK economy.

34 million people go to the theatre every year. This is many more than attend all professional football. Theatres employ over 300,000 people, promotes tourism and generates huge tax revenues, including VAT of £130 million in London alone. The creative industries employ one in six people in London. Virtually every writer, director, and actor on TV and Netflix has developed their talents in theatre. Yet, they are being left to wither away and the government shows no sign of offering practical support.

Without immediate and substantial support, theatres and performing arts companies will close and tens of thousands of artistic careers will be cut short. This would be heartbreaking.

As my local MP, I call on you to support the arts and culture. It revives local economies, drives regeneration and creates places where people want to live and work. They are a crucial resource that we cannot afford to lose. That is why I value your support.

Yours sincerely,

[Name]

[Address]

[Postcode]