Dear INSERT MP NAME,

I am writing to you as a young person in your constituency about the issue of young people and the environment. The Jack Petchey Foundation recently released an [**Environmental Youth Survey**](https://www.jackpetcheyfoundation.org.uk/environmental-youth-survey/), which asked almost 4,000 young people from London and Essex what they think about environmental issues and how schools can be better supported to motivate young people to build a more sustainable tomorrow.

The Jack Petchey Foundation has invested over £150m in opportunities for young people to inspire, motivate and recognise them and their achievements since it began in 1999.

Young people are significantly invested in the environment and building a sustainable future. **1 in 4** young people are already involved in an organisation positively impacting the environment. **Almost half** of young people would like to see more opportunities to recognise and platform young people promoting sustainability.

But what can we do to further empower young people to be the leaders of a greener future?

In the [survey](https://www.jackpetcheyfoundation.org.uk/environmental-youth-survey/), young people said…

* Engage us in **environmental topics through school**! 2 in 3 respondents would like to see environmental education prioritised in the curriculum.
* Inspire us with **trips into nature**! The highest recommendation from young people was for school’s to be supported to offer trips into nature areas to provide them with the opportunity to interact directly with green spaces which they might not otherwise have access to
* Invest in **green spaces**! According to students across London and Essex, more schools *don’t* have adequate green space than do. 38% of young people recommended investing in improving the green spaces in schools.
* **Listen to young people**! 96% agreed young people should be involved in environmental decision making, and yet only half felt that they currently are included. 68% of respondents believe that decision-makers should speak directly to young people more when shaping environmental policy.

**Over to you…**

**As a representative of young people in your area, please:**

**Read** the [**results of this survey**](https://www.jackpetcheyfoundation.org.uk/environmental-youth-survey/) to learn about what young people think about the environment and how we can build a greener future together.

**Share** this survey with your peers, on social media, and in select committees to ensure young people’s ideas are incorporated into policy and future decisions

**Engage** young people directly into your decision making. We know the government has been working on [plans to put climate change at the heart of education](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/education-secretary-puts-climate-change-at-the-heart-of-education--2), and that the government wants to ensure young people are consulted in these plans. We urge you to speak to young people directly.

**The Jack Petchey Foundation would love to help connect you directly with young people** about issues raised in this report. They will be organising **virtual round-table discussions** between decision makers and young people in the coming months. If you would like to attend one of these, please email aclarke@jackpetchey.org.uk. Let’s empower young people together.

Many thanks and best wishes,

YOUR NAME