Dear [MP name],

I am resident in your constituency and am affected by cardiomyopathy. I am writing to you to tell you about my experiences of living with cardiomyopathy, in particular about diagnosis of cardiomyopathy and the issues around this. I am writing to ask that you support our campaign in calling for the following:

* GPs to ‘think cardiomyopathy’; and
* GPs to know the family history.

This is why the campaign is important to me. One of the issues Cardiomyopathy UK found in the [State of Cardiomyopathy Care 2023](https://www.cardiomyopathy.org/sites/default/files/State%20of%20cardiomyopathy%20care%202022%20survey%20report.pdf) report was that GPs struggle to recognise the symptoms of cardiomyopathy. The research found that:

* 53% of people who first went to their GP with cardiomyopathy symptoms were diagnosed initially with a non-heart related condition.
* Only 29% of people were asked by their GP about the history of heart disease in the family.
* Of the people who went to accident and emergency (A&E) first, 92% were immediately diagnosed with a heart related condition and 76% saw a cardiologist within 3 months.

[Please add in your own experiences of diagnosis of cardiomyopathy here]

Cardiomyopathy UK also supports the [25in25 campaign](https://www.bsh.org.uk/25in25) and the [F Word campaign](https://www.bsh.org.uk/the-f-word/) both from the British Society for Heart Failure, as cardiomyopathy is one of the main causes of heart failure. Cardiomyopathy UK calls for the following:

* **GPs to ‘think cardiomyopathy’**: Increased awareness of the signs and symptoms of cardiomyopathy amongst GPs to make timely referrals to cardiologists.
* **Know the history:** GPs to ask, and record, a detailed family cardiac and medical history (given cardiomyopathy can be genetic).

As your constituent, I would appreciate the chance to meet with you so that I can talk to you more about my experiences of cardiomyopathy. I have also attached the Cardiomyopathy Manifesto 2024 for more information.

I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Best wishes,

[Your name here]

**[Include your address and postcode so the candidate knows you live in their constituency]**