**Subject: Supporting** **UK Malnutrition Awareness Week 2020**

Dear [Insert Name],

I am writing to you as your constituent and as a member of British Dietetic Association (BDA) to ask you to support UK Malnutrition Awareness Week (UKMAW) by attending a virtual Parliamentary drop-in session taking place on **Wednesday 7th October between 1 and 3pm**. The event is being hosted by Sir David Amess MP, Chair of the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Food and Health.

UKMAW is an annual campaign run by the Malnutrition Task Force and the British Association of Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition (BAPEN), with the support from the BDA. We aim to raise awareness of undernutrition and dehydration in the UK. Now in its third year, UKMAW seeks to increase understanding of malnutrition amongst health and social care workers, community groups, the voluntary sector, and the public.

As you may be aware, malnutrition has a significant impact on individuals and the health system as a whole. More than three million people across the UK are either malnourished or at risk of becoming malnourished, with an estimated one million of these people over the age of 65.[[1]](#endnote-2) With the number of people in the UK over the age of 65 projected to grow by 4.75 million by 2035, these numbers are likely to increase significantly.[[2]](#endnote-3) It is also reasonable to assume that the coronavirus outbreak will put many more people at risk of malnutrition.

This drop-in event will give you the opportunity to speak to experts in nutrition about the ways in which you can help address the challenges posed by malnutrition in your constituency and at a national level.

I would be delighted if you were able to attend and pledge your support to tackle malnutrition. To RSVP to this event, or for any further information, please contact ukmaw@mandfhealth.com (0207 492 1780).

Kind regards,

[Name]

[Insert home address] *(This is needed for the MPs office to confirm you as a constituent)*

1. BAPEN. Introduction to malnutrition. Available at: www.bapen.org.uk/malnutrition-undernutrition/introduction-to-malnutrition?.pdf. [↑](#endnote-ref-2)
2. Malnutrition Task Force. State of the Nation. Available at: <https://www.malnutritiontaskforce.org.uk/sites/default/files/2019-09/State%20of%20the%20Nation.pdf> [↑](#endnote-ref-3)