Dear [MP NAME],

As your constituent I wanted to ask you to attend the Epilepsy Society’s FixIt4Free – why the NHS should provide free dental repairs for injuries caused during a seizure, on 22nd September at the Liberal Democrat Conference.

I live in [INSERT ADDRESS] in your constituency and have epilepsy.

Epilepsy is a cause that is very close to my heart. I know that dental health is an issue that is a key policy for the party but I wanted to share my belief that epilepsy is the only medical diagnosis where an individual can repeatedly fall over and suffer damage to teeth as a direct result of their condition. Yet, currently in all four nations of the UK, people have to pay for restorative treatment. This can be extremely costly. While some may qualify for the NHS Low Income Scheme, four-fifths of people with epilepsy do not.

58 per cent of people with epilepsy who responded to a recent survey have faced dental repair costs they could not afford. And this is not a niche issue. 69 per cent of people with epilepsy have broken or chipped their teeth, while almost a third have lost a tooth. We all know that NHS dental treatment can be expensive, but for people with epilepsy there is a particularly unique problem: the need for repeated and costly treatment due to teeth damaged during a seizure.

[INSERT YOUR OWN EXPERIENCE ABOUT EPILEPSY AND DENTAL HARM HERE]
*e.g. I have had epilepsy for X years and currently take X medication. Over the years I have broken teeth/chipped teeth/lost teeth/damaged my jaw (delete as appropriate). It has made me feel X. I have spent X of money on repairing my teeth/I cannot afford to fix my teeth (delete as appropriate).*

There is no clear end point to this treatment. A person with epilepsy could pay thousands of pounds to repair their teeth, only to have a seizure and break their teeth again the very next day.

22nd September, 11.30am, Highcliffe Marriot Hotel

FixIt4Free – why the NHS should provide free dental repairs for injuries caused during a seizure

Why dental repairs caused by seizures should be free on the NHS

58% of people who damage their teeth during a seizure cannot afford to get them repaired. They have to live with missing teeth. The Epilepsy Society is calling for a medical exemption for teeth damaged due to a seizure. #FixIt4Free

I'm backing this campaign and ask for your support as my local MP. Please do attend the event if you are attending the conference. If you are not able to attend, you can table a Parliamentary Question or writing to the Department of Health and Social Care in support of a medical exemption from dental repairs needed due to epileptic seizures.

Please do let me know if this is of interest and the external affairs team at Epilepsy Society can provide you with further information. Do please email lara.evans@epilepsysociety.co.uk for further details.

Yours sincerely,

[NAME]

[ADDRESS]

[PHONE NUMBER OR EMAIL]