* To use if your MP is a member of a party that is not supportive of the Human Rights Act: Conservative Party, UK Independence Party, Democratic Unionist Party
* NB please delete appropriately depending on whether your MP is returning or new and whether you have had previous contact or not. Please personalise in terms of specific positive engagement you have had in the past (with them or their predecessor) as much as possible. Include at the end of the second paragraph example of local campaigning you have undertaken (collected X number of petition signatures, organised raffles/pub quizzes/held stalls etc.)

Dear {insert MP name} MP,

I am writing to congratulate you on your election. [As you know] I am a member of [insert group name] Amnesty International group, part of Amnesty International’s 7 million strong global movement to improve justice and human rights across the world. We [continue to] meet [insert frequency of meeting i.e. monthly, weekly] in [Insert location] and bring together members of the local community to learn and take action on human rights issues.

Over the last five years we [met with/engaged with] [you/your predecessor] on several issues and we hope we can [continue this/also develop a] good working relationship in order to promote human rights in our community.

Currently of utmost importance to us is the government’s plan to repeal the Human Rights Act.

I understand that your party has concerns about the Human Rights Act, however I hope very much that we can engage with you on this issue because we think the Human Rights Act is an incredibly important law, and losing it could cause the biggest roll-back in human rights progress in decades.

The Human Rights Act has had a positive impact on individuals and for UK society generally, in countless ways. By bringing human rights into public decision making, government and public authority actions and policies have been improved, having a positive impact on hundreds of thousands of UK citizens’ lives: keeping children with mothers when escaping abusive relationship, keeping elderly couples together and improving the care vulnerable individuals receive, to name just a few.

The controversial cases that are often quoted as evidence of the need for repealing the Human Rights Act do not represent the vast majority of cases brought by ordinary people of the UK as a means to ensure their rights are protected by the British state.

I understand that it is likely that the government will announce a repeal of the Human Rights Act in the Queen’s Speech on the 27th May 2015. As you know, MPs will get the chance to debate the content of the speech soon afterwards. Because of the reasons above, I am writing to ask that you attend the Queen’s Speech debate on Home Affairs and represent your constituents’ concerns by speaking in favour of the Human Rights Act.

I have enclosed a briefing which provides you with information you can use in the debate. If you require more information please contact the Amnesty advocacy team parliament@amnesty.org.uk or on 020 7033 1557

I look forward to your response and will be in touch again on this issue in the future.

Best wishes

{insert Chairman’s name and Amnesty group name}