

TIPS FOR WRITING TO POLITICIANS

You don't have to be a literary genius to write to politicians. The important thing is to register your opinion as a voter, not how well you write. The politicians won't know what you want them to do unless you tell them!

Don't expect a response, and you won't be disappointed if you don't get one. The response is not important. Responses are often just form-letter, party policy positions. Your job is not to try to change the mind of the politician; your job is to provide evidence that voters are unhappy with current policy.

Use the following tips to help you with your letters:

- Keep letters short and clear. No more than one page is needed, and one or two paragraphs are often sufficient.
- Make reference to something personal (e.g. "I'm a student with a long life of voting ahead of me." "As a mother of three children...")
- Focus on one or two main issues (and clear points for these issues)
- Keep it respectful!
- Ask a question or two (There is more chance of getting a reply)
- Paper letters can be given more importance
- Letters to your MP should go to their electorate office
- Letters to Ministers should go to their Parliamentary office
- Letter to Senators can go to either electorate offices or Parliamentary offices
- Use email for urgent issues
- Always email each recipient individually (Sometimes Bcced emails go to spam folders)
- If you do get a response, and your questions are not answered, then write again and ask them again!

If you are in the Geelong region, write to:

Sarah Henderson MP (Liberal)
Federal Member for Corangamite
3A/195 Colac Rd
Waurin Ponds 3216
Sarah.Henderson.MP@aph.gov.au

Richard Marles MP (Labor)
Federal Member for Corio
17A Yarra Street
Geelong, VIC, 3220
Richard.Marles.MP@aph.gov.au

If not from Geelong, find your local MP by putting your postcode into the search box here:
https://www.aph.gov.au/Senators_and_Members/Members

Also write to the following:

Peter Dutton MP
Minister for Home Affairs
PO Box 6022
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600
minister@border.gov.au

Hon Malcolm Turnbull MP
Prime Minister
PO Box 6022
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600
Malcolm.Turnbull.MP@aph.gov.au

Shayne Neumann MP
Shadow Minister for Immigration
PO Box 6022
CANBERRA ACT 2600
Shayne.Neumann.MP@aph.gov.au

Bill Shorten MP
Opposition Leader
PO Box 6022
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600
Bill.Shorten.MP@aph.gov.au