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LOBBYING YOUR MP

This brief guide is designed to help you make an impact with your MP and help campaigns to protect & support gliding.

1. Find the right MP. If you don't already know who your MP is, enter your club's postcode on www.theyworkforyou.com to find out. Remember that MPs will only respond to matters within their constituency; if you live elsewhere it is better to contact the club's MP rather than your own. Although it doesn't hurt to contact both!
2. Get in touch. It should be easy to find the MP's contact details from their website - (normally listed on the right hand side of www.theyworkforyou.com). Alternatively you can use the 'send a message' link on www.theyworkforyou.com. You can copy our template email and, if you have time, add some personal experiences to help your message to make an impact. Don't forget to give your contact details (including your postcode) or it is unlikely that you will receive a response. If you can, copy the BGA into your email so we can follow up too (pete@gliding.co.uk)
3. Follow up. MPs receive a huge amount of correspondence. If they are slow to respond, you can get back to the top of their inbox by writing a follow-up email and/or phoning the office. But if you really want to make an impact...
4. ,,arrange an appointment. MPs hold regular surgeries which are open to any constituent with an issue they wish to share. If you have time you may want to book an appointment and impress upon them exactly what it is your club needs. If they still don't get the picture...
5. ...invite them to visit your club. It is a fundamental law of politics that MPs love photo opportunities. Invite them to look round your club, attend one of your events and get them speaking to members. This is a great opportunity to let them see first-hand exactly what sports clubs need from politicians – and once they get back to Westminster and providing you keep us in the picture, the BGA will help to make sure they don't forget what you've told them!

This guidance was originally developed by the [Sport & Recreation Alliance](#).

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