Dear [x] MP

**Urgent: Please back the 0.7% international development commitment in parliament on Monday**

I am writing as your constituent to express my support for the restoration of the international development budget to 0.7% of Gross National Income, and to ask you to back the amendment to the Advanced Research and Invention Agency Bill on this subject in the House of Commons on Monday 7 June.

Cutting the international development budget commitment has been a breach of promises made to the electorate at the last election, and to the world’s poorest and most vulnerable people. The 0.7% commitment has been the subject of cross-party consensus for 15 years, enshrined in law since 2015, and was a manifesto promise of all of the major UK parties in 2019.

Cuts the budget will undoubtably cost lives in some of the poorest places of the world. The current pandemic has pushed an additional 150 million people worldwide into extreme poverty. In the midst of this humanitarian crisis, more international cooperation and assistance is needed, not less.

In the week when the UK hosts the G7, and the government is seeking to establish a role and vision for a post-Brexit ‘Global Britain’, we can show moral leadership through renewing our national commitment to international development.

The 0.7% commitment is also affordable. The reason that the commitment is expressed as a percentage of national income is meant to be that it flexes depending on economic circumstances, so it should never be ‘unaffordable’. The international development budget is a relatively small proportion of UK government expenditure – but vital for so many people and projects in the most vulnerable global communities.

I urge you to back the amendment to the Advanced Research and Invention Agency Bill on Monday.

Thank you for giving this issue your attention.

Yours sincerely

[Your name]

[Your address]