**Letter to MP draft text**

Dear

I am writing to ask you to lend your support to the Support Can’t Wait campaign, calling for urgent support with the cost of living for disabled people.

Disabled people are disproportionately affected by the cost of living crisis, due to the combination of lower incomes and unavoidable higher costs for heating, eating, transport and other essentials.

Too many disabled people and their families are already at breaking point as we enter another winter. Half of blind and partially sighted people are using their disability benefits to pay for everyday living costs, rather than the additional costs associated with their sight loss.

It is vital that benefits are set at a level that means disabled people can afford the essentials. I am writing to ask you to support the disability sector’s call for:

1. All benefits to be uprated at least in line with inflation in the Autumn Statement, as is the norm.
2. A Government review of how benefits are set and increased, so people can always afford the essentials, and manage the extra costs that come with disability.
3. Additional winter financial support targeted at disabled households with higher energy costs.
4. Consultation on an energy social tariff under the Government's commitment to develop a new approach to consumer protection in energy markets.
5. All support to be promoted and communicated in accessible formats, including in BSL and easy read, and compatible with screen reading and magnification software, and to be available at the same time as mainstream formats.

For more information on the impact of the cost of living, please email campaigns@rnid.org.uk and they will be more than happy to answer any questions you may have.