

ADVICE ON WRITING TO YOUR MP



When writing to your MP it is important to make the letter as personal as possible to you. Identical letters do not have the same impact and are often rejected by MPs or only counted as one letter.

Below is a suggested structure for your email or letter:

The first paragraph should say something about you - What does fishing on Admiralty Pier, and the wider Dover Harbour area mean to you? What do you fish for? How long have you been fishing there? Why is it important to you?

The second paragraph should explain the current situation facing sea angling on Admiralty Pier – a location which has been open to the sport for more than 100 years. You may want to include that the potential closure to sea anglers is due to security concerns from the Dover Harbour Board. These security concerns are disputed and seem to be based on a Home Office Protect Duty consultation, not on any changes to the level of security risk, or either new regulations or laws. Admiralty Pier is a grade II listed building, and you may also want to include that a section of the Pier requires significant restoration.

The third paragraph should draw your MPs attention to the Angling Trust and Dover Sea Angling Association campaign to continue fishing on Admiralty Pier.

In the fourth paragraph you might want to mention how important sea angling is to the coastal economy in Dover and Kent. Dover Harbour is renowned nationwide as a sea angling hotspot. Nationally, sea angling contributes more to the UK economy than commercial fishing. It also supports more jobs and provides vital income to the tourist sector, particularly important at this time of crisis for many struggling coastal communities. You may also want to mention the cultural and historical significance of the site, and its role in supporting local mental health and wellbeing, which is crucial as we come out of the pandemic. Admiralty Pier is also the only location available with access for disabled anglers in the local area which you may also want to include.

The final paragraph is to ask your MP to write to the Dover Harbour Authority in support of the Angling Trust and Dover Sea Angling Association campaign for continued sea angling access on Admiralty Pier and the wider Dover Harbour area. You should strongly encourage your MP to urge Dover Harbour Board to identify a viable solution to enable angling to continue on the Pier.

Please feel free to add anything else you feel would be relevant.

Sign off with your full name, address and postcode.



PLEASE FEEL FREE TO USE THE TEMPLATE BELOW, WITH YOUR OWN ADDITIONS, AND THEN COPY AND PASTE INTO THE 'Contact your Politician' SECTION

Dear MP NAME,

Threat to Sea Angling on Admiralty Pier by Dover Harbour Association – Historic Sea Angling Site for over 100 Years

My name is ----- and I've been fishing for over ---years. I live in ----- [INSERT TOWN/CITY] and I have fished off Admiralty Pier for _____ year. Fishing is important to me on Admiralty Pier because -----[INSERT REASONS]

It has come to my attention that Dover Harbour Board is threatening to revoke access to sea anglers on Admiralty Pier due to security concerns. Sea angling has taken place at this location for more than a 100 years and anglers are required to purchase a ticket from the Dover Sea Angling Association before fishing from the pier. Therefore, it is tightly monitored by the local sea angling community. Admiralty Pier is also a culturally and historically important site, being a grade II listed building, and is in need of restoration on a section of the walkway.

I am writing to you in support of the Angling Trust and Dover Sea Angling Association's campaign to ensure sea anglers still have access to Admiralty Pier, or at least a location within the Dover Harbour area.

I would also like to point out how important sea angling is to the coastal economy in Dover as a result of Admiralty Pier being an iconic sea angling location. Sea Angling is worth more to the economy than commercial fishing, supports more jobs and provides vital income to the tourist sector, particularly important at this time of crisis for many struggling coastal communities. Admiralty Pier also plays a role in supporting local mental health and wellbeing which is vital as we come out of the pandemic. It is also the only location available with access for disabled anglers in the local area.

I'm writing to ask if you would write to the Dover Harbour Board in support of the Angling Trust and Dover Sea Angling Association campaign for continued sea angling access on Admiralty Pier and the wider Dover Harbour area. I also ask you to strongly encourage Dover Harbour Board to find a viable solution to enable angling to continue on Admiralty Pier.

I hope you agree that sea anglers losing access to fish off Admiralty Pier would be a great loss to both the local community and the economy at a time when we need sites such as this to provide the socio-economic boost our community so desperately needs.

I look forward to hearing from you and will forward your response to the Angling Trust and other anglers in the area.

Best Wishes
[INSERT NAME & ADDRESS]