**[INSERT DATE]**

Elizabeth Truss MP
Chief Secretary to the Treasury
1 Horse Guards Road
London
SW1A 2HQ

Dear Chief Secretary,

**Re: Increasing the Charity Commission’s Annual Budget**

I am writing to you ahead of the Autumn Budget to ask that you increase the grant provided to the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

Britain’s charity sector is hugely important not just in social but economic terms, serving millions of people, mobilising millions of volunteers, and raises over £45bn a year to support charitable activity. In order to be effective it needs an adequately resourced regulator.

Despite this, over the past decade the Charity Commission’s budget has been roughly cut in half, which has affected its ability to effectively regulate charities in England and Wales. Staffing levels have reduced drastically, and the regulator has lost many long-serving and very knowledgeable people.

**[INSERT YOUR EXPERIENCE/EXAMPLE HERE]**

Unfortunately, the government is currently putting at risk the billions raised by the public and tens of millions of volunteering hours, by freezing an already tiny budget of around £20m annually, until the end of the decade.

The solution to this is not introducing a ‘charity tax’ which forces charities to hand over donors’ money to subsidise the regulator. The most cost-effective and least risky way to fund the Commission is for the government to provide additional funding to it directly through its annual grant.

I hope that you will consider providing additional resources for the Charity Commission in the upcoming Autumn Budget. Their officials will have a clearer idea of what they need and what can be delivered for different amounts of financial support.

I look forward to your response.

Yours sincerely

**[YOUR NAME]**