Address 1

Address 2

Date

Dear\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,

I am writing to you on behalf of myself, my family and my community of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

It has come to my attention that there is a great divide in our society that is allowing \_\_\_\_\_ numbers of Irish citizens without a home. The lack of affordable housing and emergency accommodation for the thousands of men women and children is unacceptable and should be addressed immediately.

My name is \_\_\_\_ I am \_\_\_ years old. I am a pupil at \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ school. I have recently been involved in an informational session on the causes and impacts of homelessness in Ireland. Learning about the high numbers of Irish people living without a home and the terrible conditions that they live in, shocked me. This should not be allowed by our government.

At present, there is no explicit right to housing in the Constitution or in Irish law. The Constitutional Convention recommended in February 2014 states that the Constitution should be amended to include economic, social and cultural rights, including a specific right to housing, but no decision has yet been made on this recommendation. The Oireachtas Committee on Children recommendation states, “A strengthening of the right to housing in the Constitution and strict limits on how long a family spends in emergency accommodation are among fresh demands to alleviate homelessness”.

The homelessness crisis is not going away, with over a 200% increase of people living as homeless from 2016- despite the efforts and funds made by the government.

This Christmas, many children will be without a home. This should not be the case. With your assistance, we would like to see real and meaningful legislation and programmes put in place to address homelessness. We request that you make representations to the Minister of Housing, Eoghan Murphy on our behalf.

Yours sincerely,

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_