Template letter to Local Authority

# <Insert CEO name and Local Authority address here>

Dear **<insert CEO name>**,

Re: Urgent review required of **<insert local authority here>** approach to musculoskeletal conditions.

I am writing in relation to the Arthritis Research UK manifesto *Prevent, Transform, Cure*,which I believe raises important questions about the way that we approach musculoskeletal conditions in **<insert local area>**.

Having conducted further research into this matter, it has become apparent that we do not fully explore the issue of musculoskeletal conditions in the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and Joint Health and Wellbeing strategies for **<local area>**.

This is despite the fact that musculoskeletal conditions across the country represent the fourth largest cause of spending in the NHS and account for the greatest number of working days lost.

Old age, obesity and physical inactivity are all key risk factors in the development of musculoskeletal conditions, and these are areas in which your council can make a huge difference. I would be grateful if you could ensure that this letter is passed on to the chairs of your Overview and Scrutiny Committee, and Health and Wellbeing Committee.

I would be extremely grateful if one of those committees would give an undertaking to conduct an investigation into the approach of **<insert local authority>** in relation to musculoskeletal conditions. Arthritis Research UK would be happy to assist in this matter, and their public affairs manager, Michael Watson, who can be reached on 0207 307 2262/ **m.watson@arthritisresearchuk.org**, can provide supporting materials. I would also be happy to speak at any meeting relating to musculoskeletal conditions.

I look forward to your response.

Best wishes