Dear XXX,

I am writing to you as MP for XXX and in your role as Police Chief Constable for XXX regarding the new change to the law surrounding [child marriage](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/implementation-of-the-marriage-and-civil-partnership-minimum-age-act-2022#:~:text=This%20means%20that%2016%20to,civil%20partnership%20after%20this%20date.).

As of the 27th February 2023, child marriage in England and Wales will be a crime. This will mean that anyone under the age of 18 will no longer be able to legally get married, whether this takes place within the UK or overseas. The change in law will cover all marriages whether they are registered or religious, legally binding or not. It is also now a criminal offence to cause a child to enter a marriage.

I am writing to ask what plans you have in place to fully prepare your police officers on this law change so that they are able to recognise and assess risk when faced with cases of suspected child marriage?

This meaningful change in law is a crucial step towards eliminating child marriage in all its forms throughout England and Wales.

I would like to bring to your attention that [Karma Nirvana,](https://karmanirvana.org.uk/) a national Honour Based Abuse charity, provides support and training on this matter. Karma Nirvana has recently launched an [animation](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCZUc-bbmmDJod86AXKL3IMg) to raise awareness of the change in law for child marriage.

Furthermore, Karma Nirvana operates the national Honour Based Abuse Helpline, which offers support and guidance to victims and survivors of Honour Based Abuse, as well as to professionals such as yourself. Please ensure that all officers are aware of this service so that they can access guidance should they require it.

Karma Nirvana also offer training to Police Forces across the country. If you would like to find out more contact [events@karmanirvana.org.uk](mailto:events@karmanirvana.org.uk), or ring 0113 8870 281.

I look forward to hearing about your plans regarding the child marriage law.

Your Sincerely,

[Your Name and Signature]

Member of Parliament for [constituency]