[insert date]

[insert candidate contact details]

Dear [insert candidate name],

I am a constituent of your electorate. I am deeply concerned about the housing crisis facing older people in our local community. I hope you share my concern and as a prospective member of our Parliament will commit to taking action to fix this housing crisis.

Too many older people in Australian are facing homelessness and insecure housing. This should not be happening in such a wealthy country. It breaks my heart that people who have contributed so much to our prosperity, communities and families should be facing hardship in their older years.

Australia’s retirement system is built on the assumption that a person will own their home when they retire. However, this is not a reality for increasing numbers of older people as home ownership rates fall and more people reach retirement age still having to pay a mortgage.

There has also been a huge increase in the number of older renters struggling to survive on low incomes, who are now faced with escalating rents. They are at real risk of homelessness, and all the harms that come with that.

[Add in anything you’d like to share about your own experiences of housing stress, and why this issue is important to you]

This cannot be allowed to continue. I call on you to ensure that older people have the housing security they deserve as they age, by committing to:

* **Increasing public and community housing** to 10% of all housing stock by 2040 with a specific allocation for 55+
* Developing **housing solutions** for older people with modest assets who are not eligible for public and community housing, such as **a shared equity scheme**
* Investing in **early intervention services** for older people at risk of homelessness and **specialist support services** for those who can’t access aged care support
* Supporting the implementation of a **fairer tax system** that recognises **that everyone in Australia should have a home**

Yours sincerely,

[insert your name and contact details]