**Please take the time to write to your MP about the Safe Inside Prisons Charter.**

**You can find your MP’s email address by entering your postcode here –** [**https://www.writetothem.com**](https://www.writetothem.com)

**You can also copy and paste the template text below for your email. Feel free to personalise it, and remember to add your name and address so your MP will know you are one of their constituents.**

Dear XXX,

I am writing to you as one of your constituents to ask you to support the Safe Inside Prisons Charter which has been drawn up to help tackle violence and drugs in prisons.

The Justice Unions in Prisons Alliance (JUPA), of which my union UCU is a part, have recently held a Prison Safety Summit, when this Charter was finalised.

The Charter can be read here – [www.ucu.org.uk/jupa](http://www.ucu.org.uk/jupa)

As a prison educator, I am really concerned about the levels of violence. A survey by JUPA last year found that over a quarter (26 per cent) of staff working in prisons have been the victim of physical violence within the previous 12 months.

The survey of staff working in prisons also looked at the effect of exposure to psychoactive substances, including spice, on staff. Over half of staff (53 per cent) said they had been exposed, and over a third (39 per cent) reported becoming ill as a result.  Symptoms included light-headedness, dizziness, confusion and tiredness, nausea and vomiting, increased heart rate and blood pressure and anxiety and paranoia.

You can read the full report here – [www.ucu.org.uk/jupa](http://www.ucu.org.uk/jupa)

This is the environment in which I, and many other prison staff, are working in every day, and it can’t continue.

EDM motion 215, Safe Inside Prisons Charter, has been lodged on this issue, and I would ask you to sign this to show your support for the campaign. You can read the text of the EDM here - <https://edm.parliament.uk/early-day-motion/55678/safe-inside-prisons-charter>

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

 XXX