



COUNCILLOR IAN WARD
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Our Ref: IW/1252tr

30 October 2020

SENT VIA EMAIL ONLY TO: CEU.enquiries@hmtreasury.gov.uk

Rt Hon Rishi Sunak
Chancellor of the Exchequer
Her Majesty's Treasury
1 Horse Guards Road
London
SW1A 2HQ

Dear Chancellor

Re: Support for Birmingham's Business Community

We write further to the joint statement issued on 13 October 2020 on behalf of Birmingham City Council, the Greater Birmingham Chambers of Commerce, the Greater Birmingham & Solihull Local Enterprise Partnership, the Institute of Directors West Midlands, the Federation of Small Businesses, local MPs, Lords, Trade Unions and Business Improvement Districts.

The statement called for the provision of a comprehensive package of financial assistance to Birmingham's business community following the City's entry into the second tier of restrictions.

The additional package of measures announced by Government on 22 October 2020 are welcome, however following consultation with local businesses and key stakeholders it is clear that further support is required to help businesses survive over the winter months and be in a position to 'hit the ground running' when restrictions ease.

This is vital if we are to protect jobs, livelihoods and communities.

We append to this letter the following:

- A narrative setting out the major impacts, to date, of Covid-19 on key sectors of the Birmingham economy **(Appendix A)**;
- A set of recommendations that would require implementation on a national basis and would significantly help local businesses currently affected by Tier 2 restrictions **(Appendix B)**;
- Details of a local package of support that we would seek to implement in the event that Birmingham is to enter into Tier 3. This package would be in addition to the national support provided to Tier 3 Areas **(Appendix B)**;

We hope that you will carefully consider our proposals. We want to work with you constructively to protect the local economy and would be more than willing to meet with you or your officials to discuss this matter further.

We look forward to hearing from you.

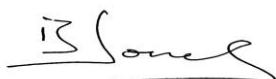
Yours faithfully



Councillor Ian Ward
Leader of Birmingham City Council



Paul Faulkner
Chief Executive of Greater Birmingham Chamber of Commerce



Councillor Brigid Jones
Deputy Leader of Birmingham City Council

Additional signatories

Acocks Green Village BID

Andrew Mitchell MP

Anmarie Kilcline, Regional Secretary West Midlands, Unite the Union

Brian Hall & Jackie Hendley, Chair & Vice-Chair of the Institute of Directors West Midlands

Baroness Christine Crawley

Colmore Business District

The Right Reverend David Urquhart, Lord Bishop of Birmingham

Baroness Estelle Morris of Yardley

Fiona Allan, Chair, West Midlands Board for Tourism

Baroness Gisela Stuart of Edgbaston

Jack Dromey MP

Jason Wouhra, President, Asian Business Chamber of Commerce

Lord Jeff Rooker

Jess Phillips MP

Jewellery Quarter BID

Joe Morgan, Regional Secretary, GMB

Khalid Mahmood MP

Baron Michael Cashman

Northfield BID

Liam Byrne MP

Baron Peter Snape

Phil Arkinstall, President, Sutton Coldfield Chamber of Commerce

Baron Philip Hunt of Kings Heath

Preet Kaur Gill MP

Retail BID Birmingham

Rich Bishop, West Midlands Regional Chair Federation of Small Businesses

Shabana Mahmood MP

Soho Road BID

Southside BID

Stephen McCabe MP

Sutton Coldfield BID

Tim Pile, Chair, Greater Birmingham and Solihull Local Enterprise Partnership (GBSLEP)

Westside BID