



Karl Turner MP
Labour Member of Parliament for Hull East
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The Rt Hon Rishi Sunak MP
Chancellor of the Exchequer
HM Treasury
The Correspondence & Enquiry unit
1 Horse Guards Road
London
SW1A 2HQ

4 June 2020

Dear Chancellor,

As Members of Parliament representing the city of Hull, we are writing to you to request urgent support for the caravan manufacturing industry.

Contributing £9bn a year to the UK economy, the industry is heavily concentrated in Hull and East Yorkshire and is responsible for nearly 20,000 jobs in our region alone. As outlined in our letter to the Prime Minister on 20th May 2020, the market for sales is overwhelmingly seasonal. With businesses reliant on trade between March-August, there is a serious risk of collapse without further support for the sector.

Like businesses across the country, caravan manufacturers have benefited from the Government's economic support measures, including the Job Retention Scheme (furlough) and Business Interruption Loan Scheme. However, their position is unique, being entirely dependent on trade in the leisure and tourism sector but not eligible for sector-specific support.

Following the 2008 financial crash, three out of every ten caravan manufacturers in Hull closed their doors. The economic effects of the coronavirus pandemic may well see a repeat, or worse, with a potentially devastating impact on regional employment, already below the national average.

With caravans set to play a central role in the UK's post-pandemic leisure and tourism sectors, it is vital that support is extended to those firms that have already missed much of their seasonal trade and now face an uncertain winter. A flexible, sector-focused approach to ending the furlough scheme, that allows manufacturers to respond to market conditions, would allow the industry to come through this crisis.

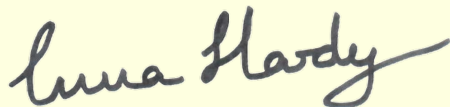
As stated in our letter to the Prime Minister, livelihoods depend on the survival of this industry, as does the post-pandemic economic recovery of our city. We therefore urge you to

consider all proposals to support this essential element of our regional economy and take urgent action. We look forward to your reply.

Yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Karl Turner', with a horizontal line underneath.

Karl Turner
Member of Parliament for Hull East

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Emma Hardy', in a cursive style.

Emma Hardy
Member of Parliament for Hull West & Hessle

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Diana Johnson', in a cursive style.

Dame Diana Johnson
Member of Parliament for Kingston upon Hull North