

The Rt Hon Boris Johnson MP,  
Prime Minister,  
10 Downing Street,  
London, SW1A 2AA

26 June 2020

Dear Prime Minister,

I am writing to you on behalf of our 10,000 members and the wider beauty industry who are seeking further explanation on the decision made by government to allow other close contact services such as hairdressing, barbers, pubs & restaurants to open on the 4<sup>th</sup> July, while excluding beauty businesses.

While our members and much of the industry are committed to ensuring they adhere to Government guidance and understand how tough many decisions are right now, we do ask that you provide the rationale and evidence supporting this decision. For that reason we would like to request a copy of the conclusions you referred to in your statement in the House of Commons on Tuesday.

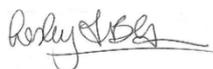
No one can dispute that your cautious and phased approach to reintroduce close contact services, ensuring that we limit the spread of the virus, is a responsible decision. We simply need clarification on how these choices were made to feedback to our understandably disappointed and frustrated members, especially given that Beauty in particular is a Sector well experienced and qualified in infection control and health & safety. Furthermore a high percentage of members have shown further due diligence by completing additional relevant training - specific to infection control of COVID-19 - which we strongly recommended in our own Back to Work Guidelines. As one of the industry bodies assisting government's previous task force for our sector, we would also like to be advised who will be leading the additional task force mentioned and request that we be included in those discussions early next week.

Equally important is clarity on when Beauty Businesses may reopen. Financially beauty practitioners have been as hard hit as other close contact services and there is no doubt the longer it takes to allow these businesses to reopen the more desperate the situation becomes and the less that will be able to do so. This is an industry that contributes more than £7 Billion Pounds to the UK economy annually and one which thrives on improving peoples mental and physical wellbeing, thus providing huge benefit to the public too. This is also an industry instrumental in helping to keep a declining High Street alive.

Our Beauty Practitioners take their responsibilities and due diligence very seriously and have been working tirelessly to ensure they are fully prepared to provide a safe working environment and look forward to being able to reopen their doors soon.

Thank you for your consideration on this urgent and important matter.

Yours sincerely,



Lesley Blair, BABTAC Chair

**BABTAC, Ambrose House, Meteor Court, Barnett Way, Barnwood, Gloucester GL4 3GG UK**

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