

*Dear XX,*

*The rapid reimposition of working from home guidance and the limitations placed on attending large events will have a devastating effect on those firms that had invested for a big, successful Christmas.*

*While it is critical that public health comes first, hospitality, retail, the night time economy and all who rely on tourists will now face an incredibly difficult winter.*

*We write to ask for support to be put back in place by those worst affected – specifically increased reductions on business rates, new grants and extended VAT reductions.*

*Should the situation with Omicron worsen, it is vital that the Government consider a return to furlough-type support and is ready for this to be introduced at the same time as any additional restrictions.*

*Businesses will do all they can to survive another difficult winter, but they need clarity as early as possible, easy access to support schemes and a commitment that if the situation worsens, the Government will be there for them.*