

## Draft letter to send to MPs

Dear (correct salutation and name)

I write to you as the owner / director of a local business – business name (employing xxx and apprentices).

I think the government has done a good job supporting many businesses throughout the Covid-19 crisis, but we now need greater clarity on measures put in place to help us survive the deluge of debt so many will face in early 2021.

Please can I count on your support to ensure the certainty that is needed by me and my peers if we are to hope to survive?

The specific issue is how the debts that have been deferred in 2020 are going to be treated by the government and their agencies.

Without clarity many businesses will understandably be taking drastic action now in order to minimise the risk of being unable to pay the likes of deferred Income Tax, VAT and their Bounce-back loans at the time due. The most likely impact will be higher redundancies than might be necessary.

Specifically, many businesses and their proprietors are facing payments next Spring of:

- Income tax deferred from July 2020, now due on 31 January 2021
- VAT deferred from June 2020, now due by March 2021
- Bounce-back loans and CBILS have 12-month repayment holidays, and so payment will start in spring 2021.

We employ xx staff, including xx apprentices and provide xx services locally / nationally etc.

We are currently being advised by xxx firm, which is a member of the UK200Group, a professional services group of 65 quality assured, independent chartered accountancy and law firms across the UK which specialise in supporting SMEs. As part of their service to us they have drawn up recommendations on several financial problems affecting SMEs as a result of Covid-19.

We would welcome your help in securing governmental support for the initiatives that the UK200Group is recommending, as these would greatly help our business, including:

- Consolidating certain debts into a single business support loan owed to HMRC.
- Establishing a threshold for loans repayments based on a criterion such as: average profits of the last 3 years, size of business and size of loan.

I would welcome discussing these issues with you and would happily arrange a three-way video conference so that you could also hear the thoughts of the tax expert at xxx, my accountants.

Kind regards