



The Rt Hon Rishi Sunak MP
Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
London
SW1A 2AA

24th November 2022

Dear Prime Minister,

Firstly, we would like to thank the government for the current energy support for the business sector. Without it our industry would not be able to continue in its current form. And the commercial laundry industry is important to the UK. The recent [Hatch Regeneris Report](#) showed just how important.

- **90% of hospitals** would be forced to **close after just 1 day** without the support of commercial laundries
- **90% of hotels** would be forced to **close within 3 days** without the support of commercial laundries
- **Pharmaceutical and food processing factories** would **close within 1 day** without the support of commercial laundries

The TSA represents the commercial laundry industry. In our previous correspondence we've told you that textile services are vital to the infrastructure of essential industries. Our industry employs 25,000 people in a range of businesses, from SMEs to large multi-nationals, all doing the same energy-intensive job. Typically, energy is now around 25% of total costs. Your current energy support is enabling our industry to service its customers. If this support is removed from March, it would have a catastrophic impact, with significant implications for customers such as the NHS. And we are still struggling to recover from the pandemic's financial impact.

At the CBI Conference in Birmingham I was impressed by your speech. You asked us to be clear around what support we need when lobbying the Government. I hope this letter is in line with your request. Laundry textile services must be included in the future support packages which you told us the Chancellor is drafting. The current energy cap works well and provides the necessary assurances around costs to enable commercial laundries to continue to invest and to service their customers, such as the NHS.

The sooner you can reassure our industry that there is no black hole, the better. We exist to support the UK's healthcare, hospitality and industrial sectors. To reiterate: 90% of the NHS use commercial laundries. If they go, the NHS can't function.

We need support. We think ours is a simple and reasonable request. But we have been missed out before, because government ministers seemed not to know our sector existed, or to understand the impact on customers like the NHS if we are not supported. Our message is simple: commercial laundries need continued energy support from March 2023 onwards.

Please confirm you have received this letter and what action has been taken. We will do whatever we can to support the process. We need to be able to give the industry clear guidance about Government strategy.

Yours sincerely,

David Stevens CEO of the Textile Services Association