



Textile Services Association's open letter to the Government on behalf of hospitality laundries

8 October 2020

For the attention of
The Rt Hon Alok Sharma MP, Secretary of State for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy

Dear Sir,

PLEASE, PLEASE do not forget us again.

The first national lockdown nearly destroyed the commercial laundries who service the hospitality industry. We had virtually no help from the government as we were deemed ineligible for rates rebates and hospitality grants, so apart from the furlough scheme, which is ending, we were left on our own. The new Job Support Scheme will not really help us – we can hardly afford to pay staff to work due to the inefficiencies of low volumes, let alone pay staff to NOT work.

Many members borrowed money to see them through the summer, which has sustained them to date and we did see some recovery during late summer, but COVID-19 is still here and volumes are dropping again as local lockdowns are getting more widespread.

We need extensions to the furlough scheme or grant support for those businesses that supply the hospitality sector in lockdown areas. Without help, they will go under. Tens of thousands of jobs are at risk if you do not take immediate action to support our industry.

If we do not survive, who will support the hospitality industry? Without us, it cannot survive.

I urge you do not forget us this time. We need help and we need it now.

Yours faithfully,

David Stevens
CEO

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