



Beauty, Aesthetics and Wellbeing APPG

The Rt Hon Alok Sharma MP
Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy
Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy
1 Victoria Street
London
SW1H 0ET

23 March 2020

Dear Secretary of State

I am contacting you as a matter of urgency regarding the government announcement on Friday evening mandating that cafes, pubs, clubs, restaurants, bars, gyms, leisure centres, nightclubs must close. That evening the government website also listed 'spas, wellness centres and massage parlours' in addition to these premises, although this subsequently changed to 'spas and massage parlours'. Neither specifically referenced hair salons, barbershops or beauty salons, yet salons are places where it is almost impossible to maintain social distancing or to avoid physical contact between staff and clients. This leaves these businesses operating in direct contradiction to government advice.

As a matter of urgency, we request that hair salons, barbershops and beauty salons are immediately added to the list of businesses which must close.

As a result of Friday's announcement, trade bodies have been fielding hundreds of calls and emails from worried salon owners unclear about whether or not they have been instructed to close.

Salon and barbershop owners want to do the right thing to protect themselves, their staff and their clients, but need clear guidance on how best to do this.

During extremely worrying and stressful times like these, clarity would be very much appreciated.

Yours ever,

Carolyn Harris MP and Judith Cummins MP
Co-Chairs
APPG on Beauty, Aesthetics and Wellbeing