

Antony Higginbotham MP  
Member of Parliament for Burnley



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

8 January 2021

Dear Constituent,

**Re: Pubs**

Many thanks for taking the time to contact me about our local pubs. I know how difficult it has been for all of them over the past few months and especially so throughout the Christmas period; one of the busiest times of the year for the trade.

As I've said previously I am 100% committed to supporting our local pubs in Burnley and Padiham, making sure that our landlords and landladies can make ends meet, however tough that may be. That's how we ensure that once we're through the pandemic, which is now on the horizon with the vaccine being rolled out at scale (more than 1 million as I write this), they can bounce back quickly. I know many, me included, are looking forward to having that first pint once again and I'll be doing my bit to support them as soon as they reopen.

An unprecedented level of support has been made available already, but I was pleased to see the Prime Minister announce a further grant of £1000 in December for wet pubs unable to offer takeaway services throughout this period. They need all the support they can get; something I pressed in the House of Commons on the 1<sup>st</sup> of December. You can see my contribution by visiting the following link:

<https://www.antonyhig.co.uk/news/antony-speaks-debate-tiered-system>

And whilst I have pushed for financial aid throughout this pandemic, I am actively speaking with Government to see what more support can be made available. The result of that in the short term has been the re-introduction of a further grant, worth up to £9,000, to help with the latest set of national restrictions.

I'm in touch with a number of pubs to ensure they get this necessary support and ask that any that are struggling contact me as soon as possible so I can help get funds into their account.

Pubs mean different things to different people but the meeting of people within our community is what makes them so special and the sooner we can back to that the better. I've always said that my job is to represent the interest of residents of our borough and that is exactly where my focus has and will continue to be.

Thank you again for taking the time to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'A. Higginbotham'.

**Antony Higginbotham MP**  
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