

Open letter from businesses in support of /together

The 5th July marks the 72nd birthday of the NHS and the nation is going to come together to give thanks. Thanks to all those who have helped us through this crisis, those who have gone to work to keep us healthy and supplied, our neighbours who have looked after the vulnerable and the whole country for sticking with social distancing, even when it was hard.

As businesses we will be part of that moment because we too have many people to thank. Our colleagues, our suppliers, our customers and our communities. These have been difficult times for us all and we have only survived because of them.

But saying thanks is only the start. We know that this crisis will have long lasting and widespread ramifications with the potential impact on livelihoods as profound as the crisis itself. We know too that the only way we will get through this is if we build on the connections and community spirit, we have nurtured in the last few months to build a kinder, compassionate, considerate world that can support each other through the years ahead.

Businesses have a key role to play and as business leaders we are committing ourselves to doing all that we can to be part of building closer communities to build broader prosperity for all. What that will look like will be different for different businesses, and it might include supporting volunteering in the local community, providing resources to local community groups or helping our colleagues connect better with each other. We know that this will have huge benefits for both our communities and for our individual mental and physical wellbeing.

While the roles that we can play will be different, the outcomes we seek are the same: a closer connected society where we know each other better, are better able to support each other and where we build caring communities in which we all feel we belong. We hope that that will become one of the positive legacies of the devastating virus.

Signed....

Dame Helena Morrissey, 30% club

Ian Stuart, HSBC

Angela Darlington, Aviva

Sir Peter Bazalgette, ITV

Dame Carolyn Fairbairn, CBI

Nichola Mendelson, Facebook

Bill Kelleher, IBM

John Pearce, Made in Britain

Nick Matthews, Co-Operatives UK

Jonathan Downey, Hospitality Union

Stephen Kelly, Tech Nation

Steve Rowe, M&S

Peter Jones CBE

Sir Donald Brydon, Sage

Richard Davies, Twickets

Jeffrey Young, Allegra Group

Justin King, CEO Sainsbury's (04-14)

Ronan Harris, Google

Julie Abraham, Richer Sounds

Sir Charlie Mayfield, Chairman, John Lewis (07-20)

Kate Nicholls, UK Hospitality

Will Stratton-Morris, Caffè Nero

Stephen Woodford, Advertising Association

Sophie Devonshire, The Marketing Society

Peter Mühlmann, Trustpilot

Raoul Shah & Tim Bourne, Exposure

Mike Butcher, TechCrunch

Chris Turner, B Lab UK

Josh Graff, LinkedIn

Mike Cherry OBE, Federation of Small Businesses

Gavin Patterson, CEO Salesforce

Kevin Ellis, Chairman PWC UK

Martha Lane-Fox

Karen Hubbard, CEO Card Factory

Louise Hill, Founder and CEO of GoHenry

John Hitchcox, Founder of YOO

Kyle Whitehill, CEO of Avanti

Amanda McKenzie, CEO, BITC (Business in the Community)

Adam Marshall, Director-General, British Chambers of Commerce

Maurice Ostro OBE, Chair, Business Action Council

Oli Wheeler, CEO, Threesixty

David Morrison, Jacobs

Peter Simpson, CEO, Anglian Water

Julian David, Tech UK

Alison Rose, CEO, NatWest Group

Gerard Manley, MD, Olam International

Amit Gudka, CEO, Bulb

Steve Butterworth, CEO Neighbourly

Further being added.....