



**Fay Jones MP**

**Member of Parliament for Brecon and Radnorshire**

Lord Dafydd Elis-Thomas MS  
Deputy Minister for Culture, Sport and Tourism  
Welsh Government  
Cardiff Bay  
CF99 1NA

16<sup>th</sup> November 2020

Dear Lord Elis-Thomas,

You will be aware that the economy in Brecon and Radnorshire is largely reliant on tourism. Holiday cottages, B&Bs, campsites and hotels are a major employer in the area. Throughout the constituency, we welcome many thousands of tourists and visitors, all of whom contribute to the local economy by visiting local pubs, shops and restaurants.

Tourism and hospitality businesses have been hit hard this year. Like many small businesses they have worked hard to comply with restrictions and make what little money they have been able to. Following the second national lockdown, tourism businesses have a small window of recovery for 2020 as families plan a pre-Christmas break.

However, Welsh Government Covid regulations do not allow for extended households (or bubbles) to holiday together. Given that bubbles can stay overnight in each other's homes, there is no justification for this measure. I understand that the Welsh Government defended this stance last week by claiming that business owners would not be able to verify who is in an extended household. Having spoken to many tourism operators in my constituency, I am convinced they are fully willing to turn away those who they do not feel are abiding by the guidelines.

This small change would help enormously and so I would be grateful if you could please consider revising this guidance? Jobs in rural areas like Brecon and Radnorshire are already at a significant risk and it would greatly increase the chance to keep some of these jobs if tourism businesses could recoup some of the huge losses they have suffered this year.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

**Fay Jones MP**  
**Member of Parliament for Brecon and Radnorshire**