

Dear Parliamentary Representative,

CURRENT RESTRICTIONS ON ANGLING ACTIVITY

I, among many people throughout the UK regularly enjoy fishing. This activity is of real value to any participant's mental and physical well being. This is an important leisure activity for me and fellow anglers, but also a critical source of employment for large numbers of individuals throughout the country both in rural areas and beyond.

Participants comprise people from all walks of life and includes people who are at the forefront of the important public and private services upon which we all currently, gratefully, rely. Fishing provides a means of escaping the pressures we all face even during normal times. Those pressures are multiplied many fold at present. The opportunity to enjoy outdoor activities is of huge beneficial value and by its very nature is inherently characterised by social distancing.

All of those involved in providing the infrastructure for fishing activities have already engaged extensively in proper and responsible planning to implement all of the relevant guidelines. The public have demonstrated themselves to be committed to adhering to those guidelines. Anglers as a family traditionally pride themselves on being responsible people with regard to consideration and respect for others.

Plainly, the relaxation of restrictions will require to be phased depending upon and for the purpose of managing risk. Angling is unquestionably an activity which is appropriate for such relaxation in all of the circumstances.

I should be obliged if you would ensure that this matter is given full and proper attention during discussions with your political and professional colleagues when considering how progress can be made with regard to modifying current restrictions.