Suite 8

The Forecourt

12 Albion Street

Hanley

Stoke-on-Trent

ST1 1QH

Dear Jo Gideon MP,

I have an issue which I'm sure many others already agree with, and I believe that this needs to be addressed to a higher body. I would like to make you aware of the issue that lockdown may impose in all ages, and many believe that a main issue is that gyms and leisure centres are closing which may have a negative impact on the mental health and physical health of most people who use these facilities. You may be affected yourself and you may already know about this problem. I would like to gain more understanding of why gyms are closing.

The reason for this is because the gyms do not have a negative effect on anyone and it has been proven that a high level of fitness and health has been shown to protect against Covid-19. I have already signed petitions to enforce the gyms and leisure centre's to stay open through lockdown,as they help people cope with mental health issues and health problems, that may be addressed by the UHNM cardiac rehabilitation team at Royal Stoke University Hospital, that offer exercises to patients to help them improve their lives and if no gyms or leisure centres are open they cant do there job, therefore give no one help which may be life-saving.

The petition for the gyms not to close had 596,128 votes (as of 9th November 09.13am) and the original threshold was 100,000 votes. Most of the people who signed either work at or go to gyms in the UK and are their main source of income or mental health stability and without gyms people working either go to alternate jobs,gyms go bankrupt and people who suffer with mental health problems lose a lot of motivation to help themselves.

However, for gyms, there are emergency funds provided by sportengland.org that keeps gyms open and helps other sports and leisure facilities, in total they have raised 195 million GBP for the cause that Covid-19 has imposed on these facilities.This issue will hopefully be resolved with your help.

Yours sincerely,

Warren Jackson.