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Rt Hon Boris Johnson MP  
Prime Minister  
10 Downing Street  
London  
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26 August 2022

Dear Prime Minister

As Chief Executives of breweries and pub companies who are experiencing first-hand the hugely damaging impacts of the energy crisis, we feel compelled to write to you to calling for urgent support.

Across our businesses we are witnessing price rises which are causing irreversible damage. Hikes can now be upwards of 300% on pre-pandemic energy bills, with the current average increase around 150% across the beer and pub sector, putting jobs and businesses at risk. As more fixed price contracts come up for renewal this is only worsening. The time to act is now.

A recent report from one licensee of a small community pub was of a £33,000 increase on their previous year's energy costs. This is one of countless examples of stark energy quotes. These figures when compared to a venues profitability simply do not add up. Without swift and substantial intervention from Government there is no doubt we will witness a huge number of pubs close their doors for good, leaving individuals without jobs during a cost-of-living crisis and communities without its social heartbeat. Breweries that supply them are equally facing eye-watering increases in energy costs.

Rising energy costs is an issue impacting the entirety of the industry's supply chain, with major CO2 producer CF Industries announcing it will be ceasing production of what is a critical component in beer production and dispense in pubs, citing market conditions as a key decision driver.

Additionally, energy price increases have come at a time when the pub and brewing sectors had just begun to piece together their recovery from the pandemic, with many venues still carrying debt accrued from this time. Without Government support, all of the positive work done to support the sector during the pandemic could be wasted, as unprecedented costs tip many pubs and brewers over the edge.

**We urgently need the Government and the leadership contenders to outline a targeted support package for the sector.** For example, along with a pause on levies, the introduction of an energy price cap for small businesses will go a long way to stop rocketing

prices crippling pubs and breweries, and additional grant support will aid pubs before we lose them forever in communities across the country.

Yours sincerely

Emma McClarkin  
**Chief Executive Officer**  
**British Beer and Pub Association**

Kevin Georgel  
**Chief Executive Officer**  
**St Austell Brewery**

Nick Mackenzie  
**Chief Executive Officer**  
**Greene King**

Jillian MacLean  
**Founder and Chief Executive Officer**  
**Drake and Morgan**

William Lees-Jones  
**Managing Director**  
**J.W. Lees Brewery**

Chris Jowsey  
**Chief Executive Officer**  
**Admiral Taverns**

Paul Thomas Davies  
**Chief Executive Officer**  
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**Letter also copied to:**

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