

PETER GIBSON MP



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

September 2020

Dear Constituent

Thank you for your email about the new rule of six.

The Government has been clear throughout that, should the number of cases escalate, they would not hesitate to take whatever measures are necessary to stop the spread and save lives. While relaxations of restrictions over recent months have been welcome, sadly, rates are rising.

That is why the Government, on the advice of scientific and medical experts, has acted. The new measures are simple: you may socialise in groups no larger than six, indoors or outdoors, unless everyone is from the same household or support bubble. Groups of six allow people to socialise with friends and family without encouraging large groups of multiple households, where there is a risk that somebody suffering with coronavirus asymptotically could pass the virus on to several different households, who could then pass the virus further.

While these measures impact our way of life, they are necessary to keep control of the virus. COVID Secure venues like places of worship, gyms, restaurants and hospitality venues can still hold more than 6 people in total. Within those venues however, there must not be individual groups larger than 6, and groups must not mix socially or form larger groups. It is vitally important that people remember to wash their hands, to cover their faces in enclosed spaces, and to keep plenty of space between themselves and others. More information on exemptions can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-meeting-with-otherssafely-social-distancing/coronavirus-covid-19-meeting-with-others-safely-social-distancing>

Once again, thank you for taking the time to contact me and if I can ever be any further assistance to you then please do not hesitate to contact me again.

*Yours,
Peter Gibson*

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