

**To: The Rt Hon Gavin Williamson CBE MP**

Dear Mr Williamson,

The market value of the foodservice equipment industry supply chain is £1.3bn and it employs 10,000 people in the UK. Our respective organisations represent the breadth of the sector.

The sector includes equipment manufacturers, importers, distributors, designers and installer consultants and service companies. 10% of business is export related.

Typically, the equipment sector's equipment comprises cooking and warming, refrigeration, warewashing, beverage, light equipment and tableware, ventilation, spare parts and servicing.

The sector's customer base comprises 427,627 outlets of which 267,485 (62%) are independent operators.

Foodservice equipment is extensively used for out of home eating and drinking across many key operator sectors and significantly in the Public Sector – Healthcare, Education, Public & Community Services, Armed Forces etc.

We support the government business funding programme, announced by the Chancellor, to support foodservice outlets that are being seriously affected by the requirements caused by Coronavirus. Their vulnerability places significant pressure on the equipment supply chain. The majority of the businesses we represent are SME's and are similarly unable to survive in the harsh commercial climate we are now in. Operators have, in effect, stopped spending on equipment and the related

Given the significant effects of the requirements on citizens and the operator sector we make the following request:

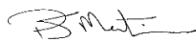
- In light of the announcement to close all schools from this Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March, there is an opportunity for Government to release the post-April Schools procurement funding early which would provide an injection of much needed business for our sector.

We support the Government need to manage the safety and health of the nation, but immediate support is required in order to ensure that our members can sustain their businesses through the recession that is being caused by its necessary action.

Yours sincerely,



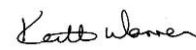
Adam Mason  
Director General  
[adam@ceda.co.uk](mailto:adam@ceda.co.uk)  
[ceda.co.uk](http://ceda.co.uk)



Phil Martin  
Chairman & Chief Executive  
[phil@cedabond.co.uk](mailto:phil@cedabond.co.uk)  
[cedabond.co.uk](http://cedabond.co.uk)



Bob Adams  
Managing Director  
[bob@ense.co.uk](mailto:bob@ense.co.uk)  
[enseuk.co.uk](http://enseuk.co.uk)



Keith Warren  
Chief Executive  
[keith.warren@fea.org.uk](mailto:keith.warren@fea.org.uk)  
[fea.org.uk](http://fea.org.uk)