

Written evidence submitted by Transition Video Ltd

My name is Rhodri Shaw and I am the director of Transition Video Ltd. Transition is a specialist video services company based in Aylesbury, supplying LED screens and camera systems to the concert touring industry, festivals and events across Europe, from tours with Liam Gallagher to Glastonbury festival.

I started the company in 2015 and over the last 5 years we have built a company with a reputation of supplying quality equipment and crew across all event sectors. We employ 8 full time staff and up to 50 freelance crew and 2020 was looking to be our busiest year to date with a forecast turnover of £4m.

We were lucky enough to have a good start to the year with 3 tours on the road, however being a seasonal business, our summer months are when we're normally extremely busy, working on over 20 festivals in the UK and Europe. Due to Covid-19, we have had all of our work cancelled for the foreseeable future, due to the ban on mass gatherings.

Unfortunately, there appears to be very little help from the government in the way of grants for the production industry. After approaching Aylesbury Vale District Council we discovered that we were not eligible for any grants. Transition as a company purely supply the hospitality and leisure industry, but due to not having public footfall through our premises, we were turned down and told that we weren't even eligible for any business rates relief. We have taken advantage of the job retention scheme by furloughing all of our staff, which will now keep our staff in employment until the end of June. We have applied for 2 CBILS government backed loans to help us survive as a business but have been turned down. We need more help from the government, Transition was thriving as a company and looking at its best year yet, but without any backing we won't survive the year.

The likely long-term impact of Covid-19 to the production industry could be catastrophic without further help from the government. The UK has a reputation of having the best production values in the world with international touring artists booking equipment and crew from the UK to tour Europe. A recent study mentioned that up to 60% of UK companies could fold due to the mass cancellation of work .

In short, we need more help in order to ride out the storm and continue to supply.

Thanks for your time.

Rhodri Shaw
Transition Video Ltd