Dear [MP],

I am writing from [NAME OF BUSINESS] in your constituency to highlight the impact of the Government’s decision to reduce support for gyms, pools and leisure centres to deal with rising energy costs.

Parts of the fitness and physical activity infrastructure in the UK are at risk of collapse over the coming months. Closures of these crucial facilities will not only mean business failure and job losses, but the restriction of vital health and wellbeing services that are a core part of levelling up the UK.

Our trade body, ukactive, recently published figures in November showing 40% of council areas are at risk of losing leisure centres or seeing reduced services at leisure centres before 31 March 2023, prior to the decision to significantly reduce the support available.

Fitness and leisure facilities in [YOUR AREA] have provided the local area with community hubs where people can connect, places to exercise, places to get advice about how to be healthier, and essential in person services that keeps residents coming back to their local high streets.

ukactive and representatives from across the sport, physical activity, and health sectors will shortly be writing to the Prime Minister warning of the dangers of failing to take action to support these facilities, increasing the potential for widespread closures.

The value of this to the people of [YOUR AREA] is immeasurable. Failure to provide sufficient support through energy crisis and the impact it has had on your local facilities will lead to the loss of essential services that are at the very heart of our communities, and which support some of the most vulnerable members of our society.

It is imperative Government urgently reconsider the decision to reduce support for facilities in the Energy Bill Discount Scheme, as well as including swimming pools within those industries selected for additional support. On behalf of [NAME OF BUSINESS], I am calling on you to advocate for local communities and ensure facilities in your constituency are protected.

If you have any questions, please get in touch with Megan Bennett at ukactive (meganbennett@ukactive.org.uk).

Kind regards,

[NAME]