

Carl Haspel, Black Hole Brewery, Derby.

The government has not supported the brewing industry particularly the very small cask ale artisan who has been treated as a food producer so did not fit any of the government guidelines so got next to no help

To come out of this is going to be exceptionally difficult as our industry has been decimated

We have to start from scratch as our produced stock is now out of best before date and our ingredients are stale and of no use

Again no compensation or help the insurers would not payout against covid19

Our staff levels are one third they were, some of my staff have been with us in excess of 25 yrs

Our turnover for the past year is only 25% of a usual year

I know of two microbreweries that will not reopen

I also know of two longstanding publicans that have left the trade as their landlords have not reduced the rents while closed therefore putting them into debt

We now carry 120k debt we did not have before the pandemic

The banks have not been helpful and somewhat rude

in their gilded cages with final salary pensions and fat bonuses from London when this country bailed them out

To stay working and continue in this trade is going to be difficult

All my friends have stayed in work or been paid furlough

Where as I have acquired a large debt and don't know how I am going to get out of it for years to come

when i was looking to retire

that is just not going to happen now

please go to the government with this as it is heart breaking and distressing

regards

carl