

APPENDIX III



Press statement from ukactive

For immediate release: Tuesday 23 June 2020

ukactive has issued the following statement in response to the Government's [announcement](#) today (23 June) about the next phase of its reopening strategy

Huw Edwards, CEO of ukactive, said: "ukactive has been in discussions with the Government today, in the period building up to the Prime Minister's announcement.

"Many people will be understandably frustrated by the decision not to reopen the fitness and leisure sector from 4 July.

"However, the Government has indicated that gyms and leisure facilities will reopen from [mid-July](#), subject to final agreement between health officials and our sector.

"In these discussions, we are completely confident in addressing any questions the Government and health officials may have, based on the comprehensive health and safety [guidance](#) we published and shared with the Government on 7 May.

"Furthermore, we have invited Government and health officials to visit any of the hundreds of gym and leisure centre show sites across the country, and witness how facilities would operate with thorough social distancing measures and hygiene standards in place.

"Our sector's safety standards are among the highest in Europe, where other nations have already reopened their gyms and leisure facilities safely.

"Any further delay to our reopening will threaten our nation's recovery from COVID-19. With obesity the second largest cause of hospitalisation from this virus, gyms and leisure centres are equipped to not only combat COVID-19, but to support rehabilitation for those recovering from the virus.

"Closed facilities cannot support that fight. Closed facilities will also worsen the health inequalities in this nation, especially as one in four members of public leisure facilities is from a BAME background, a community where health disparities from COVID-19 have been felt most.

"Any further delay to reopening would also have grave economic consequences, including the potential loss of 2,800 facilities and over 100,000 jobs.

"Greater Government engagement and clarity is now crucial. This is a health crisis, and this sector is safe to reopen and lead the fightback against COVID-19.

"Conversations will continue with Government this afternoon to establish a clear roadmap to reopening."

The logo consists of the letters 'UK' in a bold, white, sans-serif font, positioned above the word 'active' in a smaller, white, sans-serif font. Both are set against a solid orange square background.

UK
active

More people
More active
More often

The slogan 'We are ukactive' is written in a white, sans-serif font. The 'ukactive' part is in a bolder weight. To the right of the text is a white chevron symbol pointing to the right.

We are ukactive >

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About ukactive

ukactive is the UK's leading not-for-profit health body for the physical activity sector, with more than 4,000 members, from activity providers to major consumer brands, training facilities and equipment manufacturers. Members come from across the private, public and third sector and are united by ukactive's longstanding and uncompromising commitment to getting more people more active, more often.

ukactive facilitates high-impact partnerships, conceives and drives breakthrough campaigns, conducts critical research and galvanises key stakeholders to develop and deliver projects that support and champion the physical activity agenda. The organisation's efforts are centred on supporting a national ambition to "turn the tide of physical inactivity". For more information about ukactive, please contact Rob Gibson on 07585 253812, or robjibson@ukactive.org.uk