



July 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023

Atten to: London City Council

I would like to take this opportunity to express the Market's perspective over the impending decision regarding remote work for City employees. The over 40 small businesses within the Market, much like many, have had a significant hit post pandemic. We are in the stages of recovery and trying to build back, however without employees returning to work on a full-time basis in the Downtown, we continue to be affected negatively in regards to our parking revenue and also the amount of people coming into the Market and overall sales of the Market.

With a significant portion of employees staying at home, we are missing the "feet on the streets" and people walking through the Market, picking up their morning coffee, grabbing lunch and also picking up groceries before they head back home. The Market is an anchor to our Downtown and its overall success is essential. I understand it is a difficult decision with many implications but the decision for employees to stay at home has a great economic impact for the Market which houses over 40 businesses.

Overall, keeping our Downtown core vibrant, activated and full of working professionals is necessary for a thriving community.

We appreciate your consideration regarding this decision.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Amy', is written over a white background.

Amy Shackleton  
General Manager/CEO  
Covent Garden Market