



The Rt Hon Rishi Sunak MP
The Chancellor of the Exchequer
HM Treasury
1 Horse Guards Road
London
SW1A 2HQ

Councillor Tudor Evans OBE
Leader of Plymouth City Council
Labour Councillor for Ham Ward

Plymouth City Council
Council House
Plymouth PL1 2AA

T 01752 398618
E tudor.evans@plymouth.gov.uk
www.plymouth.gov.uk

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Dear Chancellor

As the Leader of Plymouth City Council, I very much welcome your decision to follow through with your commitment made in your March 2020 Budget announcement, to remove VAT on sanitary products from 1 January 2021. I would also pay tribute to the massive work undertaken by people like Paula Sherriff, the former Labour MP for Dewsbury, and her many colleagues who campaigned tirelessly for years to raise the profile of this matter, and to end this unjust tax.

The Council's current administration has also been particularly active over the past two years in raising the issues created by the Tampon Tax, and is grateful to partners like Lindsey Hall at RIO for the support she is providing through her work with schools in the city to raise awareness of period poverty. In addition, the work Plymouth City Council has done with local organisations like Red Box and Trevi House that have put in place practical steps to mitigate the impact of period poverty for local women.

However, we recognise there is more to do. I am asking you as Chancellor to support further action that will tackle period poverty. Specifically that you will:

- make it clear that manufacturers and retailers should match this commitment (removing VAT) by providing a price reduction for the public; and that you
- maintain the current ring-fenced funding for projects that help disadvantaged and vulnerable women across the UK.

In doing so we can build a fairer society, where women and girls feel valued and supported, and where they have access to essential, affordable, tax-free sanitary products.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tudor Evans', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Councillor Tudor Evans OBE
Leader, Plymouth City Council