



COUNCILLOR IAN WARD
LEADER OF THE COUNCIL
THE COUNCIL HOUSE
VICTORIA SQUARE
BIRMINGHAM
B1 1BB
Tel: 0121 464 4000
Email: Ian.Ward@birmingham.gov.uk

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SENT VIA E-MAIL ONLY: privateoffice@no10.x.gsi.gov.uk

Rt Hon Boris Johnson MP
10 Downing Street
Westminster
London
SW1A 2AA

Dear Prime Minister

We are writing to you to add our support, as elected representatives of Britain's second city, to the calls by the relatives of those who have died for a full, public inquiry into the handling of the Covid-19 pandemic.

The pandemic has undoubtedly presented unprecedented challenges to governments around the world. There has not been a crisis like this in living memory and combatting this deadly virus was always going to be difficult. However, it must be acknowledged that the UK has seen one of the highest death tolls in the world and questions are now rightly being asked about what led us to this position.

We have all seen the devastation Covid-19 has had on our communities. We have spoken to families who have lost loved ones and whose lives will never be the same again. We have consoled them, grieved with them, and supported them through what will be one of the most painful experiences of their lives. Many were denied the chance to say goodbye to their loved ones, only adding to their pain.

When speaking to many of those who have lost relatives, one thing stands out – their utter determination to find out whether their loved one's death was preventable.

This question is perfectly understandable given the many conflicting stories we see in the public arena regarding the scientific and political basis for decisions that may have contributed to the death toll in the UK.

We have a duty to these families to provide them with the answer to this question.

We are therefore urging you to establish a public inquiry into the handling of the Covid-19 pandemic. This inquiry must be independent, transparent, and be given full access to the information and witnesses necessary to investigate thoroughly.

Only then will the families, who have lost so much, have the chance of closure.

Yours sincerely



**Councillor Ian Ward, Leader of
Birmingham City Council**

**Liam Byrne MP for Hodge Hill,
Birmingham**

**Jess Phillips MP for Yardley,
Birmingham**

**Jack Dromey MP for Erdington,
Birmingham**

**Tahir Ali MP for Hall Green,
Birmingham**

**Shabana Mahmood MP for
Ladywood, Birmingham**

**Khalid Mahmood MP for Perry
Barr, Birmingham**

**Steve McCabe MP for Selly Oak,
Birmingham**

**Preet Gill MP for Edgbaston,
Birmingham**