

Dear Business Owner,

We are contacting you, as a valued independent local business regarding the government's proposal to make vaccine passports a legal requirement for businesses such as yours.

We would like to highlight the concerns held by many people over the implementation of vaccine passports, as well as the financial, logistical and data protection implications that these passports will have on your business.

We want to encourage you, if you disagree with vaccine passports, to help us push back against these proposals, as businesses are in a unique position to be able to influence this decision. We will also give you a list of ways in which you can do this.

It is important to note that this is not about the vaccines themselves, or whether you support the vaccine rollout; you may or may not be vaccinated, and that is your choice. This is simply about the domestic use of vaccine passports, and how they have no place in a free, democratic society.

We have seen the implementation of vaccine passports happen in many other countries around the world, and although in many places these have started with just larger venues, they have since spread quickly to every area of life, with the goalposts moved considerably regarding participation in the scheme. For example in Lithuania, residents are now prohibited from working for, or visiting any business, without a valid vaccine passport. Read this chilling report from a local resident:
www.wentworthreport.com/2021/10/11/tale-from-lithuania-the-first-country-to-introduce-vaccine-passports

In Queensland, Australia, people without a 'Covid pass' are unable to visit any business deemed 'non-essential' by the government as of the 17th December¹

Closer to home, Italy have now barred anyone without a vaccine passport from almost all hospitality venues²

There are many stories worldwide that bring into question whether these vaccine passports, once implemented in certain venues here in the UK, will infiltrate every sector of UK business. We urge you to be proactive, and help stop them before they really get started.

The main concerns around vaccine passports fall into four main areas: lack of scientific basis, their discriminatory nature, data protection concerns, and the infringement on inalienable human rights and freedoms.

LACK OF SCIENTIFIC BASIS

Despite initial claims about the effect of the vaccine on transmission, much of the available real world evidence clearly shows that they do not stop infection or transmission³ which therefore negates any benefit of vaccine passports. Where

customers (vaccinated or unvaccinated) can still carry and transmit the virus, a passport is not going to make any difference in stopping the circulation of Covid 19.

DISCRIMINATORY

The Public Administration and Constitutional Affairs Committee (PACAC) has concluded that, based on race, religion, age and socio-economic background, they will 'disproportionately discriminate'. This would directly contradict the Equality Act 2010, which protects marginalised groups against discrimination, and would mean vaccine passports are not justifiable if they exacerbate inequalities.⁴

DATA PROTECTION

For this section we would like to refer you to an informative leaflet which is produced by The Great Reopening: <https://t.me/TGRINFOCHANNEL/1741>

Furthermore, last month in Scotland, Scottish Conservatives' Murdo Fraser told the Daily Record: "There have been serious data privacy concerns with the SNP's vaccine passport app since the word go. The news that users' personal data will be shared with so many private companies is extremely worrying. This will only serve to further erode public trust in the SNP's shambolic vaccine passport scheme."⁵

INFRINGEMENT ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS

There are several articles in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights which are breached by the implementation of vaccine passports including:

- Everyone has the right to leave any country, including his own, and to return to his country (Article 13).
- Everyone has the right to freedom of movement and residence within the borders of each state (Article 13).
- Everyone has the right freely to participate in the cultural life of the community, to enjoy the arts and to share in scientific advancement and its benefits (Article 27).
- Everyone has the right of equal access to public service in his country (Article 21).
- Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person (Article 3)⁶

Vaccine passports also contravene a key article in the European Union Charter of Fundamental Rights, Article 3: Right to Integrity of the Person, which states:

- Everyone has the right to respect for his or her physical and mental integrity.
- In the fields of medicine and biology, the following must be respected in particular: (a) the free and informed consent of the person concerned, according to the procedures laid down by law.⁷

Beyond these are concerns about the effect on society as a whole, as these vaccine passports are likely to facilitate a medical apartheid or two-tiered society.⁸ As well as what these passports could potentially lead to in the future, specifically the possibility of a wider digital ID system, and communist style social credit system.⁹

Importantly, the UK government Committee has also concluded that there is no justification for domestic vaccine passports.¹⁰ Citing their reasons for this conclusion:

- No scientific basis for their use
- Discriminatory
- Data protection concerns¹¹

The World Health Organisation does not recommend the use of vaccine passports, stating that 'Parties are strongly encouraged to acknowledge the potential for requirements of proof of vaccination to deepen inequities and promote differential freedom of movement.'¹²

We'd also like to highlight the effects that the vaccine passport system has had on the hospitality industry in other UK countries, where it has already been implemented. For example, in Scotland, data from Night Time Industries Association (NTIA) states that "Nightclubs have seen a 46% decline in trade, some reporting in excess of 60%." In terms of the financial implications "a 46% drop represents a loss of £506,000 a year if it continues." They go on to say that "Trade in pubs & bars has also dropped by 24%, representing a lost income of £108,000 on average."¹³

Further to this, Gavin Stevenson, of the Scottish Licensed Trade Association (SLTA), told the committee: "The five trade bodies in Scotland surveyed members last week to ascertain what the economic impact of the current version of vaccine passports had been. And it was little short of devastating for a substantial proportion of businesses." The survey of more than 200 business owners and operators found... of those enforcing the vaccine passport policy, 95% said they had been negatively impacted. Some 87% said trade had decreased by more than 20%."¹⁴

There is also the impact on overheads to consider, for example the hiring of additional staff to check passports upon entry, as well as how this will impact queues outside your premises, and the wait time for entry, which equates to additional safety concerns. According to real life data "Each vaccine passport check can take between one-and-a-half and two minutes to conduct."¹⁵

What can you do?

We highly recommend listing your business on www.againstvaccinepassports.com which is a rapidly expanding database of business owners who disagree with the implementation of vaccine passports. This database is invaluable in showing the government policy makers the strength of the resistance here in the UK.

We also recommend signing up to the Together Declaration which will help to demonstrate the level of the resistance in the UK. www.togetherdeclaration.org

We also encourage you to contact your local MP with your concerns. There are two template letters available, both of which also have a feature which allows you to find your local MPs email address: www.togetherdeclaration.org/mp-letter and www.bigbrotherwatch.org.uk/campaigns/stopvaccinepassports

We would also encourage you to put up a sign in your window which lets customers know that you welcome everyone. You can download these here:

www.againstvaccinepassports.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/avp-poster.pdf

We have a very large freedom community in the UK, who are actively looking to support businesses which respect our fundamental human rights, and support our right to choose.

In these troubling times, the concept of the 'protest pound' is gaining traction quickly, and many people are using www.againstvaccinepassports.com to find businesses in their area who they can spend their money with, rather than spending with large corporations who won't give a second thought to dividing our communities. Standing up for what is right has the potential to be very good for business too!

Finally, we'd like to highlight a recent example of how our community is supporting businesses who are opposed to vaccine passports. Cinema & Co, an independent cinema company in Wales, released a statement explaining that they would not be implementing the vaccine passport system and gave very comprehensive reasons why.¹⁶ Sadly, trading standards then shut down her business for a minimum of 28 days. The freedom community has rallied around her, to ensure she does not lose out financially for making such a brave stand, and nearly £60,000 has been raised at the time of writing, to cover her costs and her fight against her closure.¹⁷

By making a stand against vaccine passports, you are making a stand for the rights and freedoms of everyone in society. You will be helping to uphold a free, open and democratic society, & you will be supported by an ever growing community.

We hope we can count on your support!

Yours sincerely,

A concerned group of local residents.

References

¹<https://www.qld.gov.au/health/conditions/health-alerts/coronavirus-covid-19/current-status/queensland-restrictions-80-percent-vaccination>

²https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-10242197/Unjabbed-Brits-BANNED-travelling-EU-summer.html?ito=native_share_article-masthead

³https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC8481107/#_ffn_sectitle

⁴<https://eachother.org.uk/what-are-the-rights-based-implications-of-vaccine-passports/>

⁵<https://www.thescottishsun.co.uk/news/scottish-news/7894532/vaccination-passport-shares-personal-data/>

⁶<https://www.un.org/en/about-us/universal-declaration-of-human-rights>

⁷<https://fra.europa.eu/en/eu-charter/article/3-right-integrity-person>

⁸<https://inews.co.uk/news/health/vaccine-passports-covid-uk-two-tier-who-left-behind-957665>

- ⁹<https://edri.org/our-work/covid-tech-the-sinister-consequences-of-immunity-passports/>
- ¹⁰<https://committees.parliament.uk/committee/327/public-administration-and-constitutional-affairs-committee/news/155788/no-justification-for-covid-passports-say-committee/>
- ¹¹https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm5802/cmselect/cmpubadm/42/4206.htm#_idTextAnchor037
- ¹²[https://www.who.int/news/item/19-04-2021-statement-on-the-seventh-meeting-of-the-international-health-regulations-\(2005\)-emergency-committee-regarding-the-coronavirus-disease-\(covid-19\)-pandemic](https://www.who.int/news/item/19-04-2021-statement-on-the-seventh-meeting-of-the-international-health-regulations-(2005)-emergency-committee-regarding-the-coronavirus-disease-(covid-19)-pandemic)
- ¹³<https://www.bighospitality.co.uk/Article/2021/10/27/Vaccine-passports-decimating-Scottish-nightlife>
- ¹⁴https://uk.finance.yahoo.com/news/vaccine-passports-devastating-business-trade-112551589.html?guccounter=1&guce_referrer=aHR0cHM6Ly9kdWNRZHVja2dvLmNvbS8&guce_referrer_sig=AQAAA_NHVh8vIAq1cn7Awj5s2i0yLiqUs_eAoM2brb7luFRZEtav_D5JDldXljkhMcr2B1Z_8Ec5_SYRk2-Wa03BSEUbiQE_dRzxcu6s_NxTxANpGAoCLQ_p4CUnFgiA2G3dm4b_K-AwuCaR3wl2c4ggUYBUo2hpDei8ds1rleX_eClir
- ¹⁵<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2021/10/25/vaccine-passports-could-fuel-covid-cost-venues-millions-says/>
- ¹⁶<https://www.facebook.com/1613732765555105/posts/2939909376270764/>
- ¹⁷<https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/cinema-co>