May 2020

Thank you for contacting me about easing restriction on angling.

The outbreak of the coronavirus has had a significant effect on communities across the country. The restrictions that had been put in place to reduce the spread of the virus have changed our way of life but I believe that the British people have adapted to them with courage and fortitude.

The benefits of sports and outdoor activity are well-known and I read the report that you sent to me with interest. I believe that it is particularly important that we continue to look after our physical and mental wellbeing during this time.

Following scientific advice that the risk of infection outside is significantly lower than inside, people are now allowed to spend more time outdoors. This includes people being able to go fishing on their own, with their household, or with one other person while adhering to social distancing rules. The advice for those aged 70 and over continues to be that they should take particular care to minimise contact with others outside their household. If they do go out more frequently, they should be careful to maintain distance from others. They and everyone should continue to comply with any general social distancing restrictions.

Thank you again for taking the time to contact me.

Yours faithfully,

**CHRIS HEATON-HARRIS MP**

**MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FOR DAVENTRY**