Government needs to do more to help pubs

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Campaign

As CAMRA’s Great British Beer Festival came to a close, new polling showed people have lost faith in the government’s commitment to protect pubs. More than six in every 10 people believe government should be doing more to protect the existence of community pubs. Just 17 per cent believe it is doing enough, a damning verdict on years of underinvestment, inconsistent support and a lack of long-term safeguarding for this cherished institution. CAMRA chairman Ash Corbett-Collins (pictured) said: “This week we’re celebrating everything that’s brilliant about pubs, brewing and beer. We will see every kind of brewer and representatives from across the industry all sharing their quality products and love for their craft. “Yet, this polling shows that Brits understand the pressures they’re under. It’s now or never for pubs. The Budget is the last chance to ease the pressure and give them a fighting chance. “We are calling on the government to reverse the rise in employer National Insurance contributions, cut duty on draught beer and make sure independent brewers can get their beers on the bar.”