



Department  
for Transport

Ben Rimmington  
Co-Director, Road Safety, Standards and  
Services  
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33 Horseferry Road  
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Richard Burnett  
Road Haulage Association

David Wells  
Freight Transport Association

30 March 2020

by email

Dear Richard & David,

### **Coronavirus (COVID-19) – Essential Work of the Logistics Sector**

I am writing to confirm that the Department for Transport considers it essential that the work of the logistics sector should continue to the greatest extent possible through the Covid-19 crisis.

Haulage drivers, managers, warehouse staff and all other logistics professionals need to continue to go about their business to keep supply chains moving, and government policy is clear that this applies to all supplies chains and not only those for food and medical supplies. All travel related to the operation of logistics businesses (including for instance necessary washing of vehicles or supply of spare parts) or necessary travel by logistics workers to places of work such as distribution centres is therefore to be considered 'essential travel' in the context of current restrictions. At all times workers should however follow Public Health England guidelines on social distancing.

We have communicated this to the National Police Chiefs Council to ensure it is shared with all police forces in the context of their important work to enforce the new restrictions on movement. I would be very happy for you to share this letter with your members, and for them to use it as evidence of the government position on this point in the event of any misunderstandings.

Thank you for everything you and your members are doing to keep supply chains moving in these difficult times.

Yours sincerely,

**Ben Rimmington**