



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba



Bob Doris MSP

MSP for Glasgow Maryhill and Springburn Constituency

Maryhill Burgh Halls, 10-24 Gairbraid Avenue, Glasgow G20 8YE
bob.doris.msp@parliament.scot
0141 946 7700

Rico Back
Group Chief Executive Officer
Royal Mail Group
100 Victoria Embankment
London EC4Y 0HQ

01 May 2020

Coronavirus Measures

I am deeply worried regarding concerns raised to me by constituents who work for Royal Mail. They inform me that there is the prospect of being redeployed to other offices during the pandemic, and, understandably have significant fears over the potential spread of Covid-19 as a result. As one constituent put it to me:-

'I can only say is totally astounding...this situation beggars belief in my opinion. We are already putting ourselves and our family at risk. For the Royal Mail to think they can get away with this is astounding. They have done this with no consultation with the CWU.'

I would ask that this matter is reviewed with great urgency, that discussions are entered into as an absolute priority with the CWU and that a solution which mitigates the absolutely understandable fears and anxieties of postal workers is found.

I am also informed that there had been proposals presented by the CWU with a view to reducing delivery days during the pandemic in order to protect staff. However, I notice Royal Mail has announced plans to temporarily end Saturday deliveries. As you will be aware, this is something the CWU has long been concerned about as a reduction to the Universal Service Obligation, and they are wary that this temporary measure would be to facilitate a move to this more permanently. With the postal service being a key service, particularly during these hugely challenging times, I would urge Royal Mail to re-enter discussion with CWU and reach an amicable agreement which supports these key workers not only during the current pandemic but also does not undermine their employment rights and conditions in the longer term.

My thanks for giving these matters your attention.

Kind Regards

Bob Doris MSP

Member of the Scottish Parliament for Glasgow Maryhill and Springburn Constituency (SNP)

CC: The Rt Hon Alok Sharma MP, Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy
CC: Communications Workers Union (CWU)