



Chris Heaton-Harris
Member of Parliament for Daventry
House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA
Tel: 020 7219 7048

March 2022

Dear Constituent,

Thank you for contacting me about the road haulage sector.

I fully recognise that this is a challenging time for road hauliers, and I am appreciative of the role that road hauliers have played in the national effort to combat Covid-19. I have been following the industry's situation closely and listening carefully to the views of hauliers here in the constituency.

I know that my ministerial colleagues communicate with the road haulage industry regularly and have held additional meetings to communicate and engage with proposals that have been brought forward, some of which centre on the recruitment of HGV drivers. In total, the Government has taken 32 proactive actions to tackle the current shortage of HGV drivers worldwide, including streamlining the testing process, increasing the number of weekly HGV tests by 90% and announcing a skills bootcamp to train up to 11,000 new drivers.

I have been informed that the number of tests available for HGV drivers in a normal week has doubled from 1,500 weekly appointments pre-Covid to 3,200 in a normal week.

As far as I am aware the Government does not currently plan to introduce a dedicated financial support scheme specifically for haulage businesses. However, Ministers have said they will keep their position under review.

Thank you again for taking the time to contact me.

Yours faithfully,

CHRIS HEATON-HARRIS MP
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FOR DAVENTRY

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