

Gerald Jones MP
Merthyr Tydfil & Rhymney

The Rt Hon Boris Johnson MP
Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
London
SW1A 2AA

Our Ref: GJ8076

24 March 2020

Dear Prime Minister,

As we know, many people across the United Kingdom are facing anxiety and huge uncertainty about the current position with Covid-19.

The statement by the Government on Monday evening was welcome but it still leaves many unanswered questions that constituents are continuing to ask relating to their employment.

Please can the Government provide further clarity on which types of employment are regarded as essential?

Currently, there is ambiguity and employees are concerned that they are in work but that their employment is not essential to fighting the virus. Some employees are working within larger groups such as a factory and others in smaller offices that are still open to the public. Examples of constituents who have raised concerns are people who work in factories, construction sites, legal practices dealing with legal matters that could be considered as less urgent and High Street shops where food is a minor part of the business.

Clearly there is an expectation where people can work from home, they should be allowed to and most employers are being reasonable and sensible. However, there are others where it appears that the current advice is not being fully implemented.

I would be grateful if you could provide further clarity at the earliest convenience given the urgent nature of this developing situation.

Yours sincerely

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