

HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

The Rt Hon Grant Shapps MP Secretary of State for Transport Department for Transport Great Minster House 33 Horseferry Road London SW1P 4DR

Our reference: BS22913

21 June 2022

Dear Grant,

Re: Impact of strike action on essential national infrastructure

The strike action taking place this week is causing misery for thousands of commuters, harming businesses and our economy and I am deeply concerned about the impact on students taking exams this week, given all the disruption they have experienced over the pandemic. When many businesses are still working to recover from the full impact of the pandemic, when the cost of alternative travel is rapidly increasing, and the economy is facing pressures from many sides, the actions of these Unions appears no better than an attempt to hold the country to ransom.

I believe essential national infrastructure should be protected from such intentional disruption and wish to offer my full support for future legislation to mitigate the impact of such strike action by allowing temporary or other workers to step in to protect these vital services.

My constituents and residents across the country deserve reliable and sustainable services free from disruption and I look forward to working with you to deliver this.

Yours Ever,

BEN SPENCEN_

Dr Ben Spencer MP Runnymede and Weybridge