



Changing the world
of work for good

Congress House
Great Russell Street
London
WC1B 3LS

Irrelevant & Sensitive
tuc.org.uk

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

contact: Name Redacted
direct line: Irrelevant & Sensitive
email: NR @tuc.org.uk

17 March 2020

Dear Prime Minister

Government taskforce on coronavirus

We are writing to urge you to set up a government taskforce to pull together unions, business and government agencies to work together to minimise the economic and health impact of the challenges arising from the Covid-19 pandemic.

As the Chancellor indicated in his budget statement, this crisis warrants a coordinated and sustained intervention in support of jobs, businesses and the wider economy. The aim of the taskforce will be to bring stakeholders together to coordinate support and ensure that measures are being effectively targeted, delivered and accessed by employers and workers in need. Although the current crisis is of course very different, the group convened in response to the collapse of Carillion provides a useful model.

The government may also want to use the opportunity to provide briefings from relevant senior public health advisors so that all stakeholders have the best possible information and can work together to get consistent and accurate messages to our own members, informed by the right public health and medical advice.

As with similar approaches in the past, the taskforce should be comprised of representatives of key government agencies, trade unions and employers' representatives and chaired by a relevant government minister in order to ensure joined-up approaches across government departments and agencies.

We are keen to work in partnership with the government and employers to ensure an effective national response to our businesses and workers facing this crisis. In order to keep senior ministers informed, we are copying this correspondence to the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy and the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster.

Yours sincerely

Frances O'Grady *General Secretary* Paul Nowak *Deputy General Secretary*



INQ000119147_0001

Frances O'Grady
General Secretary