

Rt Hon Matt Hancock MP
Secretary of State for Health & Social Care
Department of Health & Social Care
Richmond House
79 Whitehall
London
SW1A 2NS

Friday 28 May 2021

Dear Secretary of State,

Re: Free car parking for Health & Social Care Workers

At the start of the Pandemic, GMB and other unions asked Ministers to waive car parking charges for Social Care and NHS staff. This was secured to enable staff to travel to and for work, in as safe an environment as possible.

The pandemic is far from over, as we start to see a concerning increase in Covid-19 infections due to the variant of the virus first identified in India.

It is therefore a disgrace to see that guidance regarding the free car parking for health and social care workers has been amended to state that it will come to an end on the 21st June 2021, without any consultation with or notification to trade unions.

GMB members working in health and social care have been repeatedly failed by Government throughout the pandemic. Failures to provide sufficient PPE at the start of the pandemic and the discharge of Covid-19 positive patients into care homes, put our members in harm's way.

Free car parking has been one measure taken to protect workers and GMB is demanding that free car parking is extended to not only cover the entire period of the pandemic, but that it also continues afterwards.

We need you to urgently intervene and ensure NHS & Social Care staff continue to have access to free parking as a priority.

Yours sincerely,

Rehana Azam
GMB National Secretary

cc. Paul Scully MP