

No. 611/2020

23 December 2020

Our Ref: E1/20

To: All Branches

Dear Colleagues,

Shared Vans – Withdrawal By Royal Mail (Tier4 Lockdown Areas):

A small number of incidents have occurred where local Managers have claimed to have 'dispensation' from the Withdrawal of 'Shared Vans'. **THIS IS UNTRUE.**

I would draw your attention to **LTB No. 602/2020** issued on 21 December 2020 entitled **"Royal Mail Withdrawal of Shared Vans – Following Covid-19 Tier 4/Lockdown Announcements in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland:"**

Following the weekend's Tier 4 Lockdown announcements by UK governments, the Royal Mail Executive Board decided, as an 'emergency measure' to withdraw their current shared van arrangements - putting the safety of the workforce and the public first.

The Union certainly welcomes that prompt reaction to the Government announcements as the Union's position has remained that shared vans should not have been reintroduced in the first place (**See LTB No. 489/20 dated 6 October 2020**).

Royal Mail state that this is a 'temporary cessation' of the use of shared vans in Tier4/ Lockdown areas which will be kept under review.

This means shared vans should have stopped in the England listed Tier 4/Lockdown areas and in Wales (from 20 Dec), and will also stop in Scotland and Northern Ireland (from 26 Dec).

Royal Mail will be keeping this decision under close review.

The following areas of England entered Tier-4/Lockdown from 20 December:

- Greater London (all 32 boroughs and the City of London)
- Kent
- Buckinghamshire (including Milton Keynes)
- Berkshire
- Surrey (excluding Waverley)
- Gosport, Havant, Portsmouth
- Rother and Hastings
- Bedfordshire
- Hertfordshire

- Essex (excluding Colchester, Uttlesford and Tendring)
- Peterborough

THE ARE NO EXCEPTIONS

If there should be any Delivery Offices reportedly ignoring the Royal Mail Mandatory Instruction, ASRs need to verify it then it should be taken up with the DOM, OM and SHE/BP immediately to get it stopped.

SEE ATTACHED COMMUNICATIONS FROM Dr. SHAUN DAVIS GLOBAL DIRECTOR SHE, SECURITY AND SUSTAINABILITY - FIRSTLY ANNOUNCING THE WITHDRAWAL AND A SECOND COMMUNICATION TO CWU/HQ ISSUED TODAY RE-AFFIRMING THAT THERE ARE NO DISPENSATIONS FOLLOWING AN INCIDENT WHERE LOCAL OPPTS. MANAGEMENT CLAIMED WRONGLY THAT THERE WAS!

Yours sincerely



Dave Joyce
National Health, Safety & Environment Officer