

No. 004/2021

6th January 2021

TO: ALL BRANCHES WITH ROYAL MAIL GROUP MEMBERS

Dear Colleagues

CORONAVIRUS COVID-19 – Lockdown Measures within the UK

Due to the increase in cases and the new variant of Covid-19, further lockdown measures have been announced and we have been discussing these further measures with Royal Mail.

Shielding – Clinically Extremely Vulnerable – CEV

In Wales, Scotland, England and Northern Ireland Members in the Clinically Extremely Vulnerable Category cannot go to work even though we have key/critical worker status. You must stay at home.

Clinically Extremely Vulnerable Members should shield immediately. If you have not already received a letter, you will be receiving a letter from the relevant Government/NHS and should be sent to Royal Mail when received.

Pay

Clinically Extremely Vulnerable members will continue to receive full sick pay, this includes members who have less than 12 months service.

Royal Mail have put out a communication which is attached at Appendix A.

Contact Numbers

Many members experience difficulty during lockdown. Please find below some helpline numbers you may find useful.

Refuge Domestic Abuse	0808 2000 247
Mind	0300 123 3393
Samaritans	116 123
Anxiety UK	03444 775 774
Calm	0800 58 58 58
Crisis text line (text)	85258
RM First Class Support	0800 6888777

Furlough

We are disappointed Royal Mail have not offered Furlough for members whose children cannot attend school. We have written to Royal Mail today to allow our members, whose children do not have access to school to be furloughed with full pay.

Review Dates

Whilst all devolved nations are providing the same shielding advice, the review dates are not. The review dates for each devolved nation is below:-

Wales	January 18 2021
Scotland	Beginning of February 2021
Northern Ireland	Mid-February 2021
England	Mid-February 2021

Any enquiries regarding the content of this LTB should be addressed to the **PTCS** Department, quoting reference 420 Email address: khay@cwu.org

Yours sincerely

Carl Maden
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PTCS Department