

No. 275/2020

27 May 2020

Our Ref: E1/20

**To: All Branches with Royal Mail Members**

Dear Colleagues,

## **Coronavirus Controls In The Workplace: Joint Statement**

Attached is a tripartite Joint Statement from Royal Mail, CWU and Unite/CMA reaffirming commitment to a collaborative approach to ensuring the safety, health and wellbeing of employees during the Coronavirus Pandemic.

In particular, the Statement references 2m social distancing, personal protective equipment (PPE) and personal hygiene standards as being of key importance. All parties reaffirm their commitment to these standards.

Throughout the Coronavirus Pandemic, the work done by Royal Mail members has been widely recognised as playing a crucial role in helping to keep the social fabric intact. As the Government begins the process of relaxing lockdown, it is particularly important that the standards adopted in Royal Mail are maintained.

A crucial element of this is the maintenance of social distancing in the workplace. This may not always be popular, but it is essential for protecting the health and safety of employees until a vaccine becomes available. The suspension of van sharing is a key component of this. Whilst this can cause inconvenience it remains vitally important in containing possible exposure to the virus.

Reports are still being received of units where social distancing measures are not being followed. It is important that this is challenged and if not resolved, escalated swiftly.

If we are to keep members safe through this unprecedented public health crisis, now is not the time to relax.

Any enquiries relating to this LTB should be directed to Ray Ellis ([rellis@cwu.org](mailto:rellis@cwu.org)).

Yours sincerely

**Ray Ellis**  
**CWU National Officer**

## Joint Statement from Royal Mail, Unite/ CMA and CWU

Since the start of the Coronavirus pandemic Royal Mail, the CWU and Unite/ CMA have worked closely to ensure we undertake due diligence to understand the content and impact of any guidance released from the Government, national health authorities and other leading health experts from around the world. This has ensured our Coronavirus risk assessment and supporting operational procedures are under constant review with the appropriate controls in place.

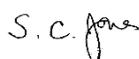
These controls include; 2m social distancing in all aspects of the operational and non-operational sites supported by a range of visuals to support all employees understand how to achieve the standard, provided a range of equipment such as hand sanitiser, masks, antibacterial wipes, gloves which are all underpinned by personal hygiene standards putting health first.

This has been of key importance in protecting our people and all parties signed below are reaffirming their commitment to these standards.

We remain committed to working in close collaboration to prioritise the safety, health and wellbeing of our people across the spectrum of physical and mental health.

Signed:

**Steve Jones**  
Unite/CMA Safety Lead



**Dr Shaun Davis**  
Royal Mail Global Compliance  
& Sustainability Director



**Ray Ellis**  
CWU National Officer

