

STEVE TUCKWELL MP



HOUSE OF COMMONS  
LONDON SW1A 0AA

25<sup>th</sup> February 2024

Dear Chancellor,

I hope this letter finds you well.

I wanted to get in touch ahead of the Budget to underline the need for including measures to protect and future-proof Britain's road haulage sector.

As I am sure you are aware, the sector plays an important- even critical – part within the economy and is key to the UK's economic success. The figures speak for themselves. For instance, 89% of the country's freight is transported by road. This number rises to 98% for food and agricultural products.

Great Britain's road haulage sector, therefore, represents an enormous chunk of the British economy – and not just in a literal, physical sense. Effects that are originally felt within the sector can, and often do, reverberate throughout the economy. It is these knock-on effects, that can really hit people's pockets – like those people in Uxbridge and South Ruislip. As we are all too aware these days, solid, reliable supply chains make for solid, reliable prosperity; whilst shaky, uncertain supply chains give us only shaky, uncertain prosperity.

Road haulage, carrying almost-90% of Britain's freight, isn't just central to many of our supply chains, but underpins the whole system. Therefore, when hauliers face uncertainty in cost increases, and even cease operations (including 450 businesses in the previous year), this underpinning becomes shakier.

Take for instance the costs of running a HGV. Analysis has shown that such costs have risen by 10%- and that doesn't even take into account fuel! So, what can we do to future proof not just road haulage but our supply chains and protect consumers' wallets? The Road Haulage Association have set out their key asks and assurances:

- A continued freeze on fuel duty.
- A freeze Vehicle Excise Duty for HGVs.
- The suspension of the HGV Levy.

I hope you will take these points on board when navigating the budget planning process – so that we can ensure not just the futureproofing of the road haulage sector, but of our national supply chains.

Only then can we have the basis to continue to grow the economy.

As always, I stand ready to help you in anyway possible to ensure that we have an economy that is outward-facing, dynamic and prosperous, including for my residents of Uxbridge and South Ruislip.

Yours sincerely,

Steve Tuckwell MP

Member of Parliament for Uxbridge and South Ruislip  
Email: [steve.tuckwell.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:steve.tuckwell.mp@parliament.uk) [www.steve-tuckwell.uk](http://www.steve-tuckwell.uk)  
Telephone: Parliament: 0207 219 0096 Constituency Office Mobile: 07507 917741