



Department for
Business, Energy
& Industrial Strategy

Holly Mumby-Croft MP
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

Nadhim Zahawi MP
Minister for Business and Industry

Department for Business, Energy &
Industrial Strategy
1 Victoria Street
London
SW1H 0ET

T +44 (0) 20 7215 5000

E enquiries@beis.gov.uk

W www.gov.uk

Our ref: N10#2020/07738

21 April 2020

Dear Holly,

Thank you for your email of 26 March to the Rt Hon Alok Sharma, about clarification on whether staff can be furloughed and then un-furloughed for essential tasks under the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme (CJRS).

The Government understands that this crisis is having a huge impact on businesses, households, and individuals across the country. We are closely monitoring developments of COVID-19 in relation to potential economic impacts and have taken decisive action to protect lives and incomes as a result.

The CJRS is protecting thousands of jobs up and down the UK – with the Government covering 80% of the salary of furloughed workers. Employees can be furloughed multiple times, but each separate instance must be for a minimum period of 3 consecutive weeks. Further information can be found at: www.gov.uk/guidance/claim-for-wage-costs-through-the-coronavirus-job-retention-scheme.

The Government has issued guidance for businesses during the Coronavirus outbreak, which is available at: www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-employers-and-businesses-about-covid-19/covid-19-support-for-businesses.

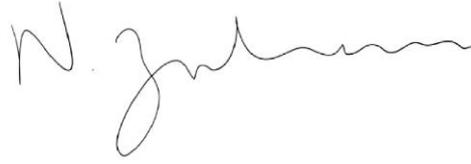
All business support offers, how to apply, and eligibility criteria are listed at: www.businesssupport.gov.uk/coronavirus-business-support/.

We have also strengthened our Business Support Helpline on 0300 456 3565, so businesses can pick up the phone and speak directly to an adviser if needed.

On British Steel specifically, my Department is in regular contact with the company, as well as other UK steel producers. We will continue to work closely with them to ensure steel companies are able to access the support required at this challenging time. I want to assure you that I am grateful for the enormous effort made by steelworkers who are ensuring we have the materials we need to fight this virus.

Thank you again for taking the time to write. I am committed to securing a bright future for the UK steel industry, and am grateful for your continued support for, and engagement with, the sector.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'N. Zahawi', written in a cursive style.

NADHIM ZAHAWI MP
Minister for Business and Industry