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Dear Karin,

## **Update to the All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) on Trailer Towing and Safety**

I am writing to update you on the publication of the response to the consultation report for the HGV driver shortage measures. Furthermore, the impact assessment for the changes to the B+E test has now been laid in Parliament and De Minimis Assessments relating to the outsourcing of the manoeuvres elements of HGV driving tests and the removal of the 'staging' requirement between tests in categories C (rigid lorries) and CE (articulated lorries) have also been published. The documents can be found at the links below.

- HGV Driver Shortage Measures, [Response to the Consultation Report](#)
- Impact Assessment for [The Motor Vehicles \(Driving Licences\) \(Amendment\) \(No. 5\) Regulations 2021 No. 1450](#)
- De Minimis Assessment for [The Motor Vehicles \(Driving Licences\) \(Amendment\) \(No. 3\) Regulations 2021 No. 1154](#)
- De Minimis Assessment for [The Motor Vehicles \(Driving Licences\) \(Amendment\) \(No. 4\) Regulations 2021 No. 1251](#)

The publication of the response to the consultation report by the Driver and Vehicle Standards Agency (DVSA) provides analysis and commentary on responses to the consultation. The conclusion considers that any increased road safety risk from the changes will be mitigated by the accredited trainer scheme for trailer towing.

The scheme will provide the opportunity to not only new drivers wanting to tow a trailer, but also drivers who received their licence pre-1997 without training. The success of the scheme is however dependent on take-up.

As you are aware, these measures were introduced at pace. This was a case of balancing the need to take action quickly to address the driver shortage against the need to assimilate evidence and analyse it in full. A Logistics UK Skills Report 2021 has recognised the significant steps taken by both government and industry to help address these recruitment issues. We have been able to achieve this through post-Brexit freedoms which enable us to regulate in a more proportionate and agile way.

I would like to also reiterate my comments from the APPG meeting in February – my department and the DVSA are fully committed to ensuring drivers access training opportunities and hear our safety message loud and clear.

Over the next few weeks, they will continue to engage with you and the APPG to provide further detail about the planned public launch of accredited trailer training.

Yours,  
Charlotte

**BARONESS VERE OF NORBITON**