Submitted 21/09/2023

LOGISTICS UK

Border security: minimum service levels during strike action

Summary

Logistics UK have submitted this response on behalf of our members. We have only answered the questions most relevant to our membership.

- The free flow of freight, particularly of critical goods and supplies, is essential to the UK economy and servicing the needs of the population. In recognition of this critical role, the movement of freight should be facilitated with minimised delay during days of industrial action.

About Logistics UK

Logistics UK is one of the country's largest business groups, representing the entire logistics industry and supporting, shaping and standing up for safe and efficient logistics. Our membership of more than 20,000 includes global, national and regional businesses and SMEs spanning road, rail, inland waterways, sea and air as well as the buyers of freight services, such as retailers and manufacturers.

What we represent

Logistics is a sector delivering an increasingly safe, sustainable and efficient system of national infrastructure – creating opportunities across the UK and linking the UK to the global trade network. Spanning land, water and air, it delivers for everyone, everywhere, every day.

- Logistics delivers big public value on small margins, ensuring the availability of the products households, businesses and public services rely on. It moves goods more than 200 billion tonne-km within the UK per year and enables the trade of more than £1 trillion of goods, while working hard to avoid adding pressure to the cost of living. .

- The sector delivers smart, green, resilient growth and jobs. It contributes £163 billion to the economy each year (12% of UK non-financial GVA), employs 2.7 million people (8.2% of the UK workforce), pays £5 billion in revenue to Treasury through Vehicle Excise Duty (VED) and Fuel Duty, in addition to other taxes. It is becoming ever more innovative and integrated – within businesses and between logistics sites and transport modes. Its key hubs provide a catalyst for further growth and investment, helping places to thrive.

- Logistics delivers for the future, as an essential system for growth. It underpins the whole economy, with an economic footprint three times larger than its direct GVA contribution, with the public sector and other private sector businesses spending 15% of their total input-related spending on logistics services per year.

<u>Consultation response</u>

Part 1 – defining essential border security services

To what extent do you agree or disagree with our proposals on which services should be in scope for border security MSLs?

Service	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly disagree
The examination of persons arriving in or leaving the United Kingdom.			X		
The examination of goods— (i) imported to or exported from the United Kingdom, or (ii) entered for exportation or brought to any place in the United Kingdom for exportation.	X				
The enforcement of health protocols, including protocols designed to inhibit the transmission of disease, such as contact locator form protocols.	X				
The patrol of the United Kingdom's borders at ports, airports and at the juxtaposed controls.			X		
The patrol of the sea and other waters within the seaward limits of the territorial sea adjacent to the United Kingdom.			X		
The collection and dissemination of intelligence for the purposes of the functions set out above.	X				
The direction and control of the functions set out above.	X				

We would value any other suggestions of which services you consider should or should not be in scope for border security MSLs and why. Please use the space below.

When strike action occurs, disruption to freight must be minimised. Movements of freight are essential to UK supply chains and UK PLC. Delays to freight can have significant financial and community consequences.

To what extent do you agree or disagree with our proposal that Border Force should be in scope for border security MSLs?

Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
X				

'Border security MSLs should be deliverable solely by the organisations which provide relevant border security functions, without any requirement for support from other employees of the Civil Service or from members of the armed forces'. To what extent do you agree or disagree with this statement?

Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
	X			

Part 2 – defining a border security MSL for Border Force

To what extent to you agree or disagree with our proposal that every port and airport should remain open on a strike day?

Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
X				

Which activities should Border Force deliver as usual on a strike day?

Delays to freight should be minimised given the potential financial, economic and societal impact of significant delays but we recognise other essential activities will still need to be delivered.

To what extent do you agree or disagree with our proposals on which factors we should consider when defining minimum staffing levels?

Service	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly disagree
The location of strike action.	X				
The timing of strike action.	X				
The duration of strike action.	X				

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Would like us to acknowledge receipt of your response? Please delete as appropriate.	Yes