



Department for
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To everyone working in the manufacturing sector

On 31 October, the Prime Minister announced further measures in England to curb the spread of Coronavirus. From 5 November, people may only leave home for specific reasons, including for work, if you cannot work from home. The Prime Minister explained that workplaces should stay open where people cannot work from home, for example in the construction or manufacturing sectors.

The manufacturing sector, which is a key part of our economy, remains open. Where it is essential to travel to your place of work to do your job, you should continue to do so.

The Government continues to update our safe working guidance. Updated guidance for England for working from your place of work from 5 November is available on <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/working-safely-during-coronavirus-covid-19>

During this difficult Autumn, I want to pay tribute to you and express my admiration for all the work you are doing. Whether delivering essential services, products or materials across sectors such as rail, aerospace, chemicals, automotive, metals, defence, pharmaceuticals, plastics and many other manufacturing sectors, you are making an invaluable contribution to supporting the economy.

Since the outset of the pandemic in March, you have performed a vital role. UK manufacturing has shown great resilience in the way it has innovated and adapted, changing the way it operates on sites, finding more efficient ways of delivering its products and services, and collaborating effectively throughout.

My Department and I are in regular contact with industry leaders about the risks, issues and challenges you face.

Thank you again to everyone operating in the manufacturing sector. You are making a hugely valued and critical contribution to our country.

Yours sincerely,

THE RT HON ALOK SHARMA MP
Secretary of State for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy