



Department  
for Transport

From the Parliamentary  
Under Secretary of State  
**Rachel Maclean MP**

Great Minster House  
33 Horseferry Road  
London  
SW1P 4DR

Tel: 0300 330 3000  
E-Mail: [rachel.maclean@dft.gov.uk](mailto:rachel.maclean@dft.gov.uk)

Web site: [www.gov.uk/dft](http://www.gov.uk/dft)

Tom Tugendhat MBE MP  
House of Commons  
London  
SW1A 0AA

11 December 2020

Dear Tom,

### **Kent Traffic Management – use of the M26**

At the roundtable meeting on 25 November I promised to write to you about the potential use of the M26 as a contingency in the event of disruption at the end of the EU transition period. I am sorry that it has taken some time to do so.

I can confirm that the M26 does not form part of the Kent Resilience Forum's plans to manage any disruption that occurs in the early part of next year as a result of the introduction of new border controls.

While we are working hard to ensure that hauliers are ready for the changes that will take place at the end of the year, we know that disruption is possible. The Reasonable Worst-Case Scenario estimates that up to 7,000 HGVs might need to be held to allow disruption at ports, caused by HGVs that are not border ready, to clear.

As you know, we recently confirmed that we have secured the use of Manston Airfield until the end of June 2021. This together with the development of the Sevington site, the potential to hold HGVs between junctions 8 and 9 of the M20 and existing capacity provides the KRF with more than enough capacity to cope with the Reasonable Worst-Case Scenario.

I hope that is helpful in clarifying that the KRF have not included the M26 in their contingency plans.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R Maclean', with a small dot at the end.

**RACHEL MACLEAN**

**PARLIAMENTARY UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE FOR TRANSPORT**