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HMRC Mileage Rates:

I appreciate the concerns raised. I know that many public service workers need to use their cars to carry out their jobs. This means that if they are not reimbursed, they are out of pocket for the vital work they do day by day. Yet, as UNISON has highlighted, while motoring costs have increased by over 40% over the last decade, the rates set by HMRC to reimburse these workers have been frozen since 2011. I therefore believe that the Government needs to acknowledge the impact the current mileage rates are having on the living standards of those affected.

The Government says the approved mileage allowance rate is intended to create administrative simplicity and certainty and that it is “ultimately up to employers to choose what they reimburse.” However, I believe it needs to get around the table with working families and those representing all those affected and provide full answers to their questions and a full explanation on this critical issue. It also needs to recognise the impact that its inability to keep bills and the cost of living under control has had, both in relation to specific concerns about mileage rates and on the difficulties working people and families are facing more widely.

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