



Department
for Transport

Richard Burnett
Chief Executive
Road Haulage Association Ltd
Roadway House
Bretton Way
Peterborough
PE3 8DD

From the Secretary of State
The Rt. Hon. Grant Shapps

Great Minster House
33 Horseferry Road
London
SW1P 4DR

Tel: 0300 330 3000
E-Mail: grant.shapps@dft.gov.uk

Web site: www.gov.uk/dft

Our Ref: MC/306595
Your Ref:

2 September 2020

Dear Richard,

Thank you for your letter of 20 August 2020, regarding the proposed funding level for the Large Goods Vehicle (LGV) driver apprenticeship standard.

I am aware that the new LGV apprenticeship standard incorporating the C+E licence for articulated lorries has been approved for delivery by the Institute for Apprenticeships (IFA). The Skills Funding Agency (SFA) have considered the standard and quotes from training providers and are recommending that the funding level for the new standard is set at £6,000.

Currently the Transport and Logistics Trailblazer Group are seeking an administrative review of the process recommending the funding level for the standard at £6,000. This process allows them 40 days to submit their reasons for the review before it is undertaken. While this review is in process the recommendation will not be put before Secretary of State for Education for approval.

I note your comments regarding the comparison with the Passenger Transport Driver standard, its duration and the driving test requirements. I believe that this shows there is a strong case for a higher funding level for the LGV driver standard. The pandemic has highlighted how vital road transport is to the UK economy, and it will continue to be so, going forward. If we are to address the long-term labour shortages in the sector, we need an apprenticeship standard that works.

To this end I have written to the Rt Hon Gavin Williamson outlining these issues. I have requested that he personally intervene to ensure that the funding level for the LGV driver standard is set at a level that can ensure the standard is financially viable.

Yours ever,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Grant Shapps', written in a cursive style.

Rt Hon Grant Shapps MP

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR TRANSPORT