Your address here

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xxxxxxxx MP

House of Commons

London

SW1A 0AA

xx xxxxxx 2015

**Access to public conveniences for mobile workers**

Dear xxxxxxx,

Many mobile workers (such as transport workers and utility maintenance staff represented by my union, UNISON) are often forced to spend large proportions of their working day without access to toilet facilities.

Unlike workers in the construction industry, mobile workers are dependent on facilities being available through local businesses or funded through their local authority . There is increasing evidence that reductions in investment in toilet facilities via local authorities means that mobile workers are unable to access these facilities. In the past four years millions of pounds in funding has been cut from public spending on public conveniences.

For those who suffer as a result, this is a serious issue. Workers who have to wait long periods to access toilet facilities can suffer from long-term health problems such as urinary tract infections, renal damage and incontinence. In addition, some mobile workers are forced to limit their liquid consumption in order to avoid the need to go to the toilet. This can lead to other health problems associated with dehydration.

UNISON is calling for a change in Government policy which would enable free, convenient and safe access to public conveniences for mobile workers. We believe that funding and a strategy needs to be put in place to address this problem.

I would be grateful if you could write to the Minister with responsibility for workplace health & safety (Lord Freud) to support this change and ask what action he is taking to address this problem.

Best Wishes,

xxxxxxxxxxxxx