23rd April 2020

The Rt. Hon Dominic Raab MP

Foreign Secretary & First Secretary of State

King Charles St.

London SW1A 2AH

Sent via e-mail

One-Minute Silence to Honour All Workers Who Have Died from Coronavirus

Dear First Secretary of State,

Health and social care workers on the frontline across the country are losing their lives to coronavirus. This is a tragedy for their families, friends, colleagues and for the nation.

At the beginning of the week, UNISON, the Royal College of Nursing and the Royal College of Midwives launched a campaign for the nation to observe a one-minute silence at 11am next Tuesday (28 April) to mark the untimely deaths of these brave staff.

Since then other organisations including the TUC, USDAW and the NASUWT have given their backing to the tribute.

On Monday, the Culture Secretary the Rt Hon Oliver Dowden said the one-minute silence was ‘a very good idea’ and his department would be ‘looking into it.’

We would like the government to endorse this tribute formally and publicly. This is in order that our entire country can take a moment to honour the selfless workers who have been taken from us too soon in protecting our citizens and caring for others.

We look forward to hearing from you at the earliest opportunity.

Yours sincerely,

Dave Prentis

UNISON general secretary