



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

The Rt Hon Nadhim Zahawi MP
Chancellor of the Exchequer
HM Treasury
The Correspondence & Enquiry unit
1 Horse Guards Road
London
SW1A 2HQ

Our Ref: ALMG
18th July 2022

Dear Chancellor,

Re: Cost of Fuel

I am writing to you to raise serious concerns regarding the price of fuel and the lack of response from the Government.

A number of families and key sectors like the haulage, transport and construction industry are suffering from forecourt costs. These costs are unaffordable for many and in a rural constituency such as mine cars and public transport are essential for peoples everyday lives. Furthermore, this is having a huge effect on the cost of distribution of goods.

Hauliers operate at a profit margin of around 2% and are under significant cost pressures already as a result of labour shortages, rising wages and the fallout of the Covid-19 pandemic. According to the Road Haulage association the cost of running a single truck has increased by 17% in the past year. There is no short-term way that hauliers can absorb or avoid these increased costs without bringing UK supply chains to a standstill. The result is always higher prices for everyday consumers. The costs have to be passed on making the cost of living crisis worse.

What steps is the Government taking to address this spike in fuel prices that is driving up prices in other sectors? Has the Government considered reducing fuel duty further? What assessment has been made on the rising price of fuel? Any further information you could give would be greatly appreciated.

I thank you for your attention to this matter and look forward to your response.

Kind regards

Alyn Smith MP