

## **Economy and Fair Work Committee**

Craig Anderson CWU Regional Secretary – Scotland The Scottish Parliament Edinburgh EH99 1SP

Sent by email only

Economyandfairwork.committee@parliament.scot

25 April 2023

Dear Mr Anderson,

## **Royal Mail**

Thank you for your letter of 17 April about the dispute between the CWU and the Royal Mail and your concerns about jobs and the future of the Universal Service Obligation (USO). I will bring it to the attention of the Committee.

We are aware of the investigation by the BEIS Committee at Westminster and note its report was published on 17 March. As you will know, the UK Government has two months in which to respond to that report and an Ofcom investigation has been asked to report back by the end of 2023.

The Economy and Fair Work Committee had already discussed the possibility of looking at some of the issues you raise but of course is keen to avoid duplication with the work of the BEIS Committee and others. That said, we share concerns about the impact of proposed changes. At our meeting on 29 March, the Committee agreed to seek written views on the impact of the proposed Royal Mail service changes and associated industrial action on businesses in Scotland and then invite Royal Mail to give evidence at a meeting. The Committee is due to consider and agree its call for views shortly. I have asked my clerks to share the call for views with you as soon as it is issued.

From media reports, I understand that agreement has since been reached between yourselves and Royal Mail in relation to the industrial dispute and that your members are due to be balloted in the coming weeks.

Kind regards

Claire Baker MSP Convener

Claime Baker