



Department for
Transport

From the Secretary of State

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As David,

Thank you for your letter of 10 March, regarding the commitment I made at the House of Commons Transport Committee to review the transport sector's response to this year's severe winter weather.

You will be aware that I announced an independent review on 30 March. The terms of reference are available at:

<http://www.dft.gov.uk/pgr/regional/reviewofwinter0910/>.

I am delighted that David Quarmbly, Brian Smith and Chris Green have agreed to steer this work and they bring a wealth of experience with them.

I have asked that the review team consider the issue of minimum salt stock levels entering the winter season. However, I agree that there is no single solution to improving resilience levels. The lessons learned review will investigate a range of potential solutions and will also examine winter resilience issues across other modes including rail and air travel. The review team will be in touch with you and your colleagues as a key stakeholder in the response of the transport sector. In the meantime, I have forwarded a copy of your letter to officials in the review team to ensure the initial ideas in your letter are taken on board.

Aside from the independent review, the Department is taking action now to examine the capability of the existing salt supply chain to meet the demands of highway authorities entering next winter. I am grateful for the LGA's assistance in highlighting this as a crucial issue for highway authorities.

Finally, I must place on record my thanks to you and your colleagues at the LGA for your contribution to the Salt Cell process. With your support we provided advice on the delivery of 529,315 tonnes of salt to those authorities in greatest need for support.

Your ever,

Andrew.

ANDREW ADONIS
