

**TOM PURSGLOVE MP**  
CORBY & EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE



HOUSE OF COMMONS  
LONDON SW1A 0AA

3<sup>rd</sup> June 2020

*Dear Consultant,*

**RE: CORONAVIRUS - SIGHT LOSS & PUBLIC TRANSPORT**

Thank you for your recent correspondence in respect of ensuring people with sight loss can access public transport as the country begins to open up again; your comments upon which I have read with great interest.

This is clearly an important matter, and I am grateful that you have taken the time to write to me to outline your views.

You may be pleased to hear that the Government has recently published new guidance for transport operators, reminding them that all equality and discrimination law continues to apply, and that they have a duty to ensure that passengers with disabilities, including those with sight loss, are able to access the transport network.

The guidance makes clear that transport operators must support individuals to ensure they are able to adhere to social distancing, and that guidance should be provided for workers assisting people with disabilities.

Information should also be provided for disabled passengers on how they can continue to access transport in a safe way. Operators should publish details about provision for disabled passengers, and they should note any changes to assistance services.

I would also expect passengers using public transport to be considerate towards those with disabilities who may require a seat, or more space around them.

I hope this response has provided a measure of clarity and reassurance.

Once again, thank you for having taken the time to contact me and if I can ever be of any further assistance to you then please do not hesitate to contact me again.

*With best wishes,*

**TOM PURSGLOVE MP**  
**MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT**  
**CORBY & EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE**