

Mr G Emmerson

Chief Executive

London Ambulance Service 

London

SE1 8SD

By email: garrett.emmerson@lond-amb.nhs.uk

10th April 2020

Dear Mr Emmerson

**Re: Covid-19 Testing for Staff**

GMB members are deeply concerned about when Covid-19 testing will be taking place in London Ambulance and when will they be tested. Media coverage is topically prescribing that testing is available to front-line NHS workers and their families - yet this apparently isn't the case for all staff in London Ambulance

It would seem from the current media reports that the Covid-19 virus trajectory for the UK population is ascending and further reports indicate workforce absences within NHS trusts Is also likely to show a corresponding ratio of increase, to the prevailing UK populous.

Therefore, GMB is requesting a response to the following questions:

1. How many London Ambulance staff have been tested for Covid-19 virus to date?
2. The daily rate of these tests within London Ambulance Service and on which workforce groups such as: PES; EOC; PTS, 111, Support and Corporate?
3. Are family members of staff being tested and at what rate and, of which staff workforce grouping do they belong and in which geographical area?
4. The location of all the identified sites across London Ambulance that staff can attend for Covid-19 testing?
5. The daily and or, weekly numbers that have been tested in each of the identified sites and geographical areas by workforce groupings?

I am sure you are being supportive of your workforce and I expect you are equally demanding to your NHS colleagues at the centre, in that the testing of London Ambulance workers is crucial, given the vital role they are undertaking in this battle against such a deadly virus. I hope it is also recognised that these workers require the highest level of protection, not only of personal protection equipment, but that of having Covid-19 testing, readily available to themselves and when necessary their families.

However, I do need to stress with you that the GMB Union will do everything in its power to support its members in getting the correct personal protective equipment they need, to protect themselves, and that Covid-19 testing is freely available to those workers who require it.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely

BRENDAN KEMP

GMB ORGANISER

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