As a follow up we would encourage you to write or eMail your local Member of Parliament using the template eMail we have prepared below.

This will help ensure your MP is familiar with the issue and takes action to raise your concerns at a national level.

1. *To find the name of your MP, enter your business postcode into* [*https://members.parliament.uk/members/commons*](https://members.parliament.uk/members/commons)
2. *Select the profile of your MP: this will take you to their profile page on the parliamentary website, which lists their parliamentary office eMail.*
3. *Use the template below and send to your MP.*

**We encourage you to personalise the text so it is relevant to your business.** Do make sure you include your full address and postcode when you contact them.

I am writing to you to express my deep concern that nearly half of all UK police authorities are enforcing significantly increased time restrictions on the movement of abnormal loads during peak hours and during the hours of darkness. These are ‘blanket’ restrictions applying to all abnormal loads regardless of size or whether they are simply travelling through a force area on the Strategic Road Network.

The result is abnormal loads are effectively limited to moving within a 6-hour window in any 24 hour period.

Operationally, the combination of a long list of weak structure diversions, the environmental impact of added mileage diverting around structures and/or embargo areas, as well as drivers’ hours rest and breaks; plus the lack of suitable parking for abnormal loads has created a near impossible situation for operators to navigate and operate their businesses legally. Movements are taking twice as long, doubling the cost and increasing prices for end users. In some cases, operators are having to submit 50 movement orders just to cover a single journey; simply because some police forces now require a precise time and date of the movement.

These additional restrictions have been put in place without consultation with the industry. The effects are significant and result in increased costs which cannot be sustained. It is also putting experienced operators and their staff at significant risk of prosecution without good reason.

As a business in your constituency, this is having a severe impact on our ability to operate. I must ask for your support in urging the police authorities to suspend the increased restrictions pending consultation.

The sector has always accepted that single carriageway ‘A’ and ‘B’ roads should be avoided during darkness and peak hours on safety grounds, but we cannot accept the inclusion of the strategic road network and dual carriageways. STGO vehicles pay the highest rate of excise duty giving them every right to operate on our roads without undue restrictions.

Due to the increasing numbers of Police Authorities taking such action(s) we urgently seek your help in raising this issue and to support our reasonable call to immediately suspend all increased restrictions until the police have had the opportunity to consider representations on the issue at a national level.