

Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy

Margaret Fitzsimons CEO Electrical Distributers' Association Rotherwick House 3 Thomas Moore Street London E1W 1Z Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy 1 Victoria Street London SW1H 0ET

T +44 (0) 20 7215 5000 E <u>enquiries@beis.gov.uk</u> W <u>www.gov.uk</u>

Our ref: N10#2020/09646

2 May 2020

Thank you for your letter dated 20 March to the Rt Hon Alok Sharma MP, regarding electrical wholesale outlets. I have been asked to reply on behalf of the Department and I sincerely apologise for the delay in replying.

To reduce social contact, the Government has ordered certain businesses and venues to close. Other businesses can remain open and their employees can travel to work, provided they cannot work from home. Except where explicitly stated, we are not requiring businesses to close.

Businesses such as electrical wholesale outlets may remain open as these are vital to keep our critical business operating. However, Government will continue to review this advice. Businesses remaining open should consider the wider impacts on their employees and customers and implement practical measures to support social distancing measures.

Thank you again for writing.

PAUL SCULLY MP Minister for Small Business, Consumers & Labour Markets Minister for London