



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

9th March 2021

Stocksbridge Speciality Steels

Since being elected as the Member of Parliament for Penistone and Stocksbridge, I have taken an active interest in Speciality Steels in Stocksbridge and have been a strong advocate for the UK steel industry. Speciality Steels is a valuable national asset with a skilled workforce producing high value specialist materials that are sold all over the world.

As I have made clear in recent articles and in the House of Commons, we must retain and invest in the UK steel industry and I believe that Stocksbridge Speciality Steels has an important role to play in this.

Over recent weeks it has become clear that the parent company, Liberty Group, is facing funding challenges, and I've been in frequent contact with the Speciality Steels management team, as well as having calls with ministers and officials in Government on a daily basis. Last week I had a meeting with Kwasi Kwarteng, Secretary of State for Business, who assured me that the Government is closely engaged in the situation and I will be meeting him again tomorrow.

The jobs provided by Speciality Steels are highly valuable to our community and I understand that this is an uncertain time for employees and their families, many of whom live in the Penistone and Stocksbridge constituency. This morning I spoke to the local Community Union representative to hear employees' concerns, and I continue to offer them my full support.

I am continuing to advocate that, regardless of the challenges that Liberty is facing, Stocksbridge Speciality Steels is an asset of national importance and it has unique capabilities to produce the materials we need now and in the future.

I firmly believe that steel is not just an important part of the history of Stocksbridge, it should also be a vital part of our future and I will continue to work closely with management and the Government to do whatever is possible to help secure a strong and profitable future for Stocksbridge Speciality Steels.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Miriam Cates'.

Miriam Cates MP

Member of Parliament for Penistone and Stocksbridge