



## Suppressing self isolation sick pay 'scandalous and incompetent'

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**Lives will likely have been lost and higher infection rates will cost the NHS and employers far more in the long run, says GMB Union**

GMB has described reports the UK government suppressed access to sick pay for people isolating with the coronavirus at the height of the pandemic as 'scandalous and incompetent'.

**Rachel Harrison, GMB National Officer, said:**

"Poverty sick pay rates are causing higher infection rates in care homes and other workplaces. We have one of the lowest Statutory Sick Pay rates in Europe and reform is long overdue.

**“ Suppressing advice on furlough eligibility during self-isolation is scandalous and incompetent. Lives will likely have been lost and higher infection rates will cost the NHS and employers far more in the long run.**

**Rachel Harrison, GMB National Officer**

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employers far more in the long run.

“We need to know whether Ministers approved the decision to withhold this advice. An urgent investigation should be established with accountability to Parliament.

“This reinforces the case for a recovery based on stronger rights and valuing workers properly.”

