



Department  
for Transport

Bell Ribeiro-Addy MP  
House of Commons  
London  
SW1A 0AA

From the Secretary of State  
**The Rt. Hon. Grant Shapps**

Great Minster House  
33 Horseferry Road  
London  
SW1P 4DR

Tel: 0300 330 3000  
E-Mail: [grant.shapps@dft.gov.uk](mailto:grant.shapps@dft.gov.uk)

Web site: [www.gov.uk/dft](http://www.gov.uk/dft)

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18 November 2020

Dear Bell,

Thank you for your joint letter of 22 October to the Prime Minister, about the death of Belly Mujinga. Your letter has been transferred to this Department and I am replying on his behalf.

I appreciate you taking the time to write to me with your and colleagues' concerns about the tragic death of Mrs Mujinga. My deepest sympathies and thoughts are with Mrs Mujinga's family, friends and all those who have been affected by her death, at this difficult time. We owe a debt of deep gratitude to all those transport workers who have kept the country moving during this pandemic. Every single life lost in our transport family is a tragedy. Our deepest sympathies and thoughts are with the family, friends and colleagues of Mrs Mujinga - and indeed all those affected by her death.

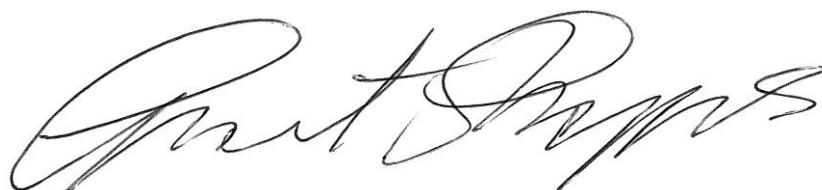
Regarding the question of investigating the circumstances surrounding Mrs Mujinga's tragic death, the North London Senior Coroner is currently making preliminary enquiries to establish if he has a duty to investigate under section 1 of the Coroners and Justice Act 2009.

In these circumstances, I consider that the best way forward is to await the Coroner's decision. Whilst it is vital we allow the space for these enquiries to take place, I want to reassure you and all those affected by the loss of Mrs Mujinga that my Department and I will continue to support the safety of all frontline transport workers, which remains a key concern for the Department.

My thoughts are with Mrs Mujinga's husband and family and I look forward to hearing the Senior Coroner's decision in the first instance.

I am copying this letter to the co-signatories of your letter.

Yours ever,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Grant Shapps', written in a cursive style.

**Rt Hon Grant Shapps MP**

**SECRETARY OF STATE FOR TRANSPORT**