



**COUNCILLOR IAN WARD**  
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Our Ref: IW/484tr

16 January 2018

Esther McVey MP  
Secretary of State for Work and Pensions  
House of Commons  
London  
SW1A 0AA

Dear Secretary of State

We are writing to voice concerns following the collapse of Carillion and to request support in co-ordinating assistance for affected individuals and businesses in Birmingham.

Carillion's failure could have serious consequences in Birmingham and work is urgently needed to minimise the impact.

Carillion is a partner in the major Paradise development, a regeneration project that is pivotal to the structure and layout of Birmingham city centre, as well as a catalyst for other regeneration projects.

As you are aware, the company is also a major contractor for HS2, with work due to commence on the ground in Birmingham this year. The HS2 project has a major role to play in the future of Birmingham's economy, in the provision of jobs and training opportunities.

In addition, to providing employment as the head of a major supply chain, Carillion is also a partner in providing apprenticeships and training to many young people in Birmingham. This has been an important route to skilled employment opportunities and has been a contributing factor in our successful reduction of youth unemployment across the city.

In the past Birmingham City Council has successfully taken a taskforce approach to effectively addressing similar issues (for example the collapse of MG Rover). For this to succeed though, we need a greater understanding of the government's approach and of course the co-operation of public sector partners.

In addition, it is essential that the DWP supplies resources to maintain the training and employment routes for young people and to support any redundant workers into new jobs.

We hope that you will be able to swiftly provide a positive response to this request and work with us as we seek to help those affected by the collapse of Carillion.

Yours sincerely

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

Councillor Ian Ward  
**Leader of Birmingham City Council**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brett O'Reilly', written in a cursive style.

**Cllr Brett O'Reilly**  
Cabinet Member for Jobs and Skills