

The Rt Hon Grant Shapps MP
Secretary of State for Transport
Department for Transport
Great Minster House
33 Horseferry Road
London
SW1P 4DR

Via email: TransportSecretary@dft.gov.uk

23 November 2021

Dear Secretary of State

We were pleased to support the government's consultation in November 2020 on managing pavement parking. The problem of pavement parking is a longstanding issue and action is now long overdue.

We now have an opportunity to make progress on this problem - doing nothing is not an option. A year on from the close of the consultation, we urge you to move forward with introduction of legislation to introduce a London-style pavement parking prohibition throughout England, as in Scotland. Only a default prohibition, with appropriate exemptions, like in London, will send the signal that pavement parking is unacceptable.

Vehicles parking on the pavement causing an obstruction and damaging footway surfaces is an urgent problem and discriminates against pedestrians, especially for those with young children, older people and those with visual or mobility impairments, and is an issue that has attracted attention for over forty years. It will be more difficult for the Government to meet its own targets of half of all journeys walked and cycled by 2030 when pavement parking makes walking so hard for so many.

Every day, parents and children are putting themselves at risk because of pavement parking. New polling commissioned by Living Streets indicates that 87% of parents have had to walk into the road because of pavement parking and that 80% would be more likely to walk their child to school if there wasn't pavement parking.

Scotland has led the way with the introduction of legislation in 2019 for a nationwide prohibition on pavement parking, and the Welsh Government also plans to regulate pavement parking, through unnecessary obstruction.

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Change in England is long overdue, and your department has moved forward positively by consulting on this issue. We urge you now to join with other nations of the UK in making our pavements safer and fit for purpose for all road users.

Yours sincerely



Stephen Edwards, Interim Chief Executive, Living Streets

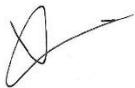


Steve Garidis, Executive Officer, Bicycle Association

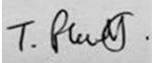


Brian Facer, Chief Executive, British Cycling

Sarah Mitchell, Chief Executive, Cycling UK



Xavier Brice, Chief Executive, Sustrans



Tompion Platt, Director of Operations and Advocacy, Ramblers



Dame Sarah Storey, Active Travel Commissioner, South Yorkshire MCA

Simon O'Brien, Liverpool City Region Cycling & Walking Commissioner



Andrew Pester, Chief Executive, British Parking Association



Tom Wright CBE, Chief Executive, Guide Dogs



Cllr. James Jamieson, Chairman, Local Government Association



Katie Pennick, Campaigns Lead, Transport for All

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