



11 March 2014

Mr Ian Campbell

Dear Mr Campbell

Risks to child and adult pedestrians and legality of footway parking

Thank you for your letter of 27 February 2014 in relation to risks to pedestrians and the legality of footway parking.

Unfortunately, I am not in a position to comment on the legality of footway parking as this is a matter for each local authority to determine. Therefore, I have forwarded your letter to the Merseyside Road Safety Partnership for each local authority partner to respond directly to you so that they can explain their approach to the matter.

However, in the meantime, I would draw your attention to the Merseyside Local Transport Plan (LTP) which helps to illustrate the importance of Road Safety to ourselves and our Partners in Merseyside. Reducing the risks to child and adult pedestrians and improvements to road safety are key priorities for the Merseyside Local Transport Plan (LTP). Goal Three of the LTP clearly states "ensure the transport system promotes and enables improved health and wellbeing and road safety".

The creation of true pedestrian friendly networks requires the continuation of a strong road safety programme. The Road Traffic Regulation Act 1988 requires highway authorities to undertake the investigation of road injuries and to introduce measures to remedy them. From this has grown the Local Safety Schemes Programme in which small-scale engineering measures are identified from the in-depth analysis of Police records of accidents in which injury has occurred.

This programme has provided a steady year-on-year reduction on the number of injuries on the road in Merseyside. In more recent years, this analytical approach has been extended to all types of safety initiatives and has shaped direct educational and promotional activity as well as to set appropriate levels of enforcement by the Police and by the use of Safety Cameras.

Cont'd...

Merseyside Integrated Transport Authority and Passenger Transport Executive

Cllr Liam Robinson, Chair of Merseyside Integrated Transport Authority

The Merseyside Road Safety Partnership seeks to deliver the objectives set out in the Local Transport Plan. This group is part of the Merseyside Transport Partnership and has had a good deal of success in reducing all road casualties between 2001-2012. However, there is much more to be done and, with a present toll of more than 500 people killed or seriously injured on the roads of Merseyside each year, this is still unacceptably high.

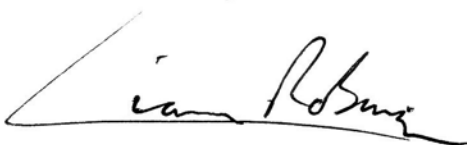
Our road safety strategy ensures a high standard of data collection about factors surrounding road casualties, recorded by the Police, which give the earliest warning of patterns of accident and injury that are unusually high or are on the increase. This enables our strategy to be continually refreshed and refocused so that available resources are always directed at interventions which will be most effective. Our strategy will include continuation of our existing approach and targeting new initiatives where our evidence supports the need for action.

The Road Safety Partnership is mirrored at district level by Joint Action Groups, involving the Police, local authority engineers, health authorities and the fire and rescue service. Although some issues are common to all districts, each has its own particular issues and needs and, as such, the best strategy for each district will vary.

The settings of targets and milestones and the monitoring of progress coupled with direct action to address issues as they arise, has been shown to be an effective way of managing down risk of accidents occurring. Although there is now no national advice on the level of target that is appropriate, the Merseyside Transport Partnership considers road safety such an important issue that targets have been set within the Local Transport Plan. You can find further details on these at the website www.transportmerseyside.org.

Thank you for writing to draw my attention to your concerns and I hope this information will assist.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Liam Robinson', written over a horizontal line.

Councillor Liam Robinson
Chair, Merseyside Integrated Transport Authority