



Department
for Transport

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Dear Alan,

Thank you for your letter of 30 November to the Secretary of State for Transport, on behalf of your constituents, about Living Streets' Manifesto for Walking in support of a ban on pavement parking in England. I am replying as the Minister responsible for this issue.

The Government recognises that vehicles parked on the pavement can cause serious problems for pedestrians, particularly people with mobility or sight impairments, as well as those with prams or pushchairs. However, it also acknowledges that in some areas, for example in narrow streets with no off-street parking, pavement parking can be necessary to maintain the free passage of traffic and access for emergency services.

The Department is aware that some members of the public and organisations representing disabled people have questioned the effectiveness of the current legislative framework, and believe that a new law is needed to tackle inappropriate pavement parking.

As you are aware the Department carried out a public consultation on possible solutions to the complex pavement parking problem. The consultation was launched on 31 August and ran until the 22 November. We have received over 15,000 responses. We are very appreciative and thankful for the number of responses we received to this consultation. This is an issue on which we are keen to hear a wide range of views. The Department is now carefully analysing the responses and the results will inform future policy decisions. Whichever solution is arrived at must allow for the needs of all road users in differing situations, while considering any environmental implications.

Please extend my gratitude to your constituents for taking the time to write in on this important matter.

*Yours,
Charlotte*

BARONESS VERE OF NORBITON