



Department
for Transport

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Dear Jon,

Thank you for your letter of 29 January 2020, addressed to the Secretary of State for Transport, enclosing correspondence from your constituent, Steve Travis, the Wakefield and District representative of the Motorcycle Action Group, appealing for motorcyclists to have parity with cycles in road infrastructure. I am replying as the Minister responsible for this issue.

The Department does take the issue of motorcyclists' safety seriously. Motorcyclists represent one of the most vulnerable road user groups and in July last year, the Department published a refreshed Road Safety Statement, 'A Lifetime of Road Safety'. It includes a set of actions for the coming years to address the following four key priority groups: motorcyclists, rural road users, young road users, and older road users. The effectiveness of these measures will be kept under review. The Road Safety Statement can be viewed at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/road-safety-statement-2019-a-lifetime-of-road-safety>

It is not clear what Mr Travis means by 'parity'. The needs of motorcyclists have to be balanced with those of other modes, and cyclists are also vulnerable road users, as Mr Travis acknowledges. In line with its commitment to decarbonisation, the Government is committed to making cycling and walking the natural choices for short journeys or as part of a long journey by 2040. The provision of safe, good quality cycling and walking infrastructure is a key part of achieving this.

Local authorities are responsible for managing roads in their areas, and for considering what provision is appropriate for different modes, including motorcycles.

Please extend my gratitude to Mr Travis for taking the time to write in with his concerns.

Yours,
Charlotte

BARONESS VERE OF NORBITON