



Department  
for Transport

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Dear Lucy

Thank you for your letter of 7 March 2018, on behalf of your constituents, about pavement parking.

The Government is aware that parking on the pavement can cause serious problems for pedestrians, and particularly for people in wheelchairs or with visual impairments, and those with prams or pushchairs.

Local authorities outside London have wide-ranging powers, under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, to make Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs) to prohibit footway parking on designated lengths of highway or over a wide area. The traffic signs needed to inform drivers of such restrictions are prescribed in the Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions 2016 (as amended). The Department for Transport has issued guidance to local authorities about doing this.

With regard to work that the Department has been involved in, following the withdrawal of Simon Hoare's Private Member's Bill which sought to ban pavement parking nationally, a roundtable meeting was convened in March 2016 with external stakeholders, including some local authorities. A possible pavement parking ban in the rest of England outside London was discussed. It was identified at the roundtable that the major concerns affecting the enforcement of pavement parking were issues relating to the processing of TROs. The previous Transport Minister, Andrew Jones MP, wished to gather evidence on the use of TROs to identify whether those powers could be made to work more effectively. Unfortunately, that survey has been delayed. However, I should clarify that it was intended to gather evidence on the use of TROs in general, rather than pavement parking specifically.