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Simon Lightwood MP
Minister for Local Transport and Sustainability
Department for Transport
Great Minster House
33 Horseferry Road
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Our Ref: MP14693

5 August 2026

Dear Simon,

Re: Road Safety in Stratford-on-Avon

Thank you for your response to the debate I secured in June on road safety in the West Midlands. I am writing to follow up on a number of points raised, and to set out where I think there is a gap between what was said and what my constituents are actually experiencing.

I want to return to one part of your speech. You said that "for many communities, this is not just about statistics; it is about near-misses, fear and a sense that nothing happens until a tragedy occurs, and I understand that frustration," and that "people should not have to wait for a serious injury or fatality before action is taken to improve safety." That is not the reality in Warwickshire. Warwickshire County Council's published policy on casualty reduction schemes states that new schemes are "limited only to those locations where there has been a significant history of injury collisions," and that "there is currently no funding available for additional safety engineering works to address local speeding concerns." The council also states that, due to reduced resources, its Traffic and Road Safety Group "no longer have the capacity to investigate requests for alterations or new works on the highway." For my constituents, waiting for a serious injury or fatality is the stated policy, and it is driven by a lack of funding. I would like to understand what the Government intends to do to ensure councils are properly funded to act on speeding concerns before someone is hurt, not after.

I would also be grateful for an update on the commitments you set out in the debate. None came with a timescale, and I would like clarity on when I and my constituents can expect to see progress on:

- The consultation on a minimum learning period for new drivers in England, Scotland and Wales
- The strengthening of motorcycle training
- The consultation on a lower blood alcohol limit for novice drivers in England and Wales
- The new national charter to improve safety for people who drive or ride for work
- The update to the Manual for Streets
- The updated guidance on setting speed limits and the use of speed and red light cameras

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- The new road safety board

Finally, given the change in Prime Minister, I would ask you to confirm whether the commitments in the road safety strategy published in January, and the assurances you gave in this debate, still stand in full under Prime Minister Burnham's Government, as they did under Prime Minister Starmer's.

I would welcome the opportunity to meet with you to discuss road safety in Stratford-on-Avon, including the specific challenges on rural routes such as the Fosse Way. Please let me know a convenient time.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading 'Manuela Perteghella'.

Dr Manuela Perteghella MP

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