

TOM PURSGLOVE MP
CORBY & EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

29th June 2020

Dear Constance,

RE: ACTIVE TRAVEL - 'STRIDE & RIDE' CAMPAIGN.

Thank you for your recent correspondence in respect of active travel, and specifically the 'Stride & Ride' campaign; your comments upon which I have read with great interest.

I commend you on your efforts to make at least five active journeys in a fortnight and agree that the benefits of active travel are wide-ranging. Like you, I try my best to walk wherever possible and I do a fair bit of running between places too!

More broadly, I welcome that to build on considerable recent investment, Ministers have pledged to invest an additional £2 billion in cycling and walking and have committed to publishing a national cycling plan, as well as an updated *Cycling and Walking Investment Strategy*.

The first stage of this £2 billion investment will be a £250 million emergency active travel fund. This funding will deliver new pop-up cycle lanes with protected space for cycling, cycle and bus-only corridors, safer junctions and wider pavements. Furthermore, a £50 'Fix Your Bike Voucher' will be introduced, which is expected to help up to half-a-million people bring bikes out of retirement.

New statutory guidance has also been issued to councils to ensure they are able to reallocate road space for significantly increased numbers of cyclists and pedestrians. As the country opens up again following the COVID-19 'lockdown', local authorities can implement 20mph speed limits in association with other measures to encourage more cycling and walking. Just introducing 20mph speed limits will not in itself be sufficient to meet the needs of active travel, but in consort with other measures, could provide a more attractive and safer environment for walking and cycling.

In addition, the Government is investing around £2.5 billion in grants available for ultra-low emission vehicles, as well as funding to support charging point infrastructure. Ministers are also consulting on bringing forward an end to the sale of new petrol, diesel and hybrid cars and vans from 2040 to 2035, or earlier if a faster transition appears feasible. Trials of rental electric scooters have also been brought forward.

LISTENING TO YOU - CAMPAIGNING FOR YOU

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Once again, thank you for having taken the time to contact me and if I can ever be of any further assistance to you then please do not hesitate to contact me again.

With best wishes,
Tom

**TOM PURSGLOVE MP
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT
CORBY & EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE**