



Our ref: CEO 18026845 & CEO 18027427  
Your ref: HW/AE

Helen Whately MP  
House of Commons  
London SW1A 0AA

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13 November 2015

Dear Ms Whately

Thank you for your letters of 2 and 8 October 2015 addressed to Jim O'Sullivan regarding enquiries from your constituents [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] about the parking of heavy goods vehicles (HGVs) at junction 8 of the M20. This issue falls within my area of responsibility and so has been passed to me for response.

We are aware that across our strategic network and in many places on the local network in Kent, there has been a recent significant rise in fly-parking by HGVs. In the absence of free HGV parking available elsewhere that drivers can afford and will use, we try to take a pragmatic approach where possible. For example, experience shows that if we move HGVs on, the space is soon taken up by others who then quote end of hours or frozen brakes as reasons not to move. However, where there are safety issues we do not tolerate fly parking; the junction 8 slip road is one of them.

We are in constant discussions with Kent County Council and the Police to find ways of overcoming this ongoing problem. However, we have not, to date, been allocated any funds for provision of dedicated lorry parking.

In a recent meeting, a decision was made to go ahead with the installation of barrier guards on both sides of the carriageway at junction 8 of the M20. The guards will be solid metal fences that will stop HGVs from parking illegally. We have secured funding for this work and our contractors have been given instruction to commence. While a start date has not yet been confirmed, we have, in the meanwhile installed cones which we will continue to use as an interim measure. The work is likely to commence before the end of the current financial year.



We are monitoring this situation with Traffic Officers and the Police, where possible and will move vehicles on that are causing an unacceptable or unsafe obstruction.

Highways England will continue to work with partners to formulate various means in influencing behaviour to reduce fly parking generally and prioritising the worst cases. Local authorities such as Ashford and Shepway are also looking to introduce means to reduce fly-parking.

As well as moving HGVs on, Kent County Council (KCC) is looking to bring forward improvements for lorry parking in the county so that they have places to go to and we continue to work with them on their plans. Further details about their plans can be found on the KCC website: <http://www.kent.gov.uk/>

Should you wish to discuss the matter further, our Asset Manager for Kent, Kevin Bown can be contacted at [kevin.bown@highwaysengland.co.uk](mailto:kevin.bown@highwaysengland.co.uk) or by phone on 0300 470 1046.

Yours sincerely



David Brewer  
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