MAYOR OF LONDON

Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM
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Dear Caroline,

Thank you for your presenting the petition regarding dangerous junctions at the London Assembly (Plenary) meeting on 11 November 2021. Please accept my apologies for the delay in replying.

Every death or serious injury on our streets is devastating, bringing heartache and tragedy to all those involved. I am determined to achieve Vision Zero and eradicate all loss of life and serious injuries from London's streets by 2041.

We have made huge strides since committing to Vision Zero, with road deaths and serious injuries falling faster than the national average. In 2020, 36 per cent fewer people were killed or seriously injured while walking than in 2019, with the greatest reduction in central London.

While in part the steep reduction in casualties between 2019 and 2020 can be attributed to pandemic-related changes in travel patterns, we have also seen – and continue to see – changes in travel behaviour as a result of our investment in improved walking and cycling infrastructure.

Delivering Vision Zero is only possible through the critical partnership between Transport for London (TfL), the police and London's boroughs – and I was delighted that partners jointly wrote the foreword for TfL's Vision Zero Action Plan progress report to demonstrate our collective commitment to reducing road danger and eliminating deaths and serious injuries on London's streets.

As you know, the Safer Junctions programme to target dangerous junctions was announced in April 2017, and improvements have now been delivered at 43 sites out of the original 73 on the programme. All locations in the Safer Junctions programme had higher than average collision rates and this improvement work is a vital part of the Vision Zero ambition – helping to reduce collisions by 23 per cent overall, and by 30 per cent for vulnerable road users (people walking, cycling or motorcycling) up to December 2020. The number of injuries of all severities to people motorcycling fell by an average of 18 per cent across completed projects.

There are 30 junctions remaining, and I am acutely aware of the urgency in getting these vital schemes completed. Subject to funding being available, TfL proposes to engage and consult on ten further Safer Junction schemes by 2024. Boroughs themselves may have more planned but we cannot progress this vital work, or provide funding to boroughs, without first securing adequate funding for TfL.

Reducing the dominance as well as overall numbers of motorised traffic is at the heart of our Vision Zero ambition. As you know, recently, I released a new report by Element Energy on the actions we need to take to reach my aim of net zero by 2030. The report also shows that in order to meet the climate change targets and move London towards a greener future, car traffic must reduce by at least 27 per cent in London by the end of the decade.

TfL is now considering a number of policies to reduce vehicle use in London that could be ready within the next few years. This will greatly help to reduce Londoners' exposure to road danger, make our streets safer and feel safer and create streets where people want to walk, cycle and use public transport.

It would be remiss of me to fail to mention the challenge presented by funding uncertainty. I have been very clear that our ability to deliver the measures needed to reach Vision Zero is dependent on sustainable funding that will enable TfL to continue to innovate to improve road safety in London and beyond. Our commitment, and that of our partners, to pursuing our Vision Zero ambition is unwavering – but it really will be unattainable if we cannot fund the interventions we need to make it a reality.

I would like to reassure you that TfL and I are making the case very strongly to government for this funding and I trust that the London Cycling Campaign and the London Assembly will join us in support of this vital work.

Thank you again for taking the time to present the petition on this important matter.

Yours sincerely,



Sadiq Khan
Mayor of London

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