



Baroness Vere
Department for Transport
Great Minster House
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EEH Business Unit
c/o Buckinghamshire Council
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Date: XX February 2021

Dear Baroness Vere

Traffic Management Act Part 6 powers

England's Economic Heartland welcomes the Government's commitment to commence the remaining elements of Part 6 of the Traffic Management Act 2004, allowing local authorities to enforce against moving traffic offences.

It has been a long-standing ambition for local authorities in the Heartland to be able to enforce moving traffic violations. The powers will bring significant benefits to ensuring the better management and flow of traffic, including HGVs through the region. As well as transport benefits, better management of traffic would support improved safety and environmental outcomes.

These benefits will support the region to realise the ambitions set out in our Transport Strategy: achieving net-zero carbon emissions before the legal requirement of 2050; improving network safety; and supporting freight and logistics while reducing its impact on communities.

Following the announcement in *Gear Change*, we welcomed confirmation in Parliamentary Under-Secretary Rachel MacLean MP's response to Parliamentary question UIN 133201 (January 11th 2021), which stated the powers will take several months to bring into force, after which local authorities can apply for a designation order for moving traffic enforcement.

EEH agrees with the Government that enforcement must be carried out fairly. We believe that, where welcomed by local partners, it would be advantageous for the new powers to be commenced at scale, so that they can be applied consistently over a large geographic area, across local authority boundaries.

England's Economic Heartland and our partners would like to see delivery of the regulations and enactment of Part 6 of the Act outside of London as soon as possible. To support the Department in doing this, we would like to offer our support.

The Heartland, stretching from Swindon to Cambridgeshire and Northamptonshire to Hertfordshire, is well positioned to be a living laboratory for new ideas and regulatory reforms, and could act as a regional trial site for the new powers before they are rolled out nationally.

Our region has the advantage of sharing a significant border with London, where Part 6 is already enforced.

In addition, we would also be happy to convene a working group of transport officers, which can act as a sounding board for Department officials as they explore how Part 6 can be implemented more widely.

I look forward to hearing from you,

Yours sincerely

Mayor Dave Hodgson

Chair, Strategic Transport Forum

CC. Anthony Ferguson, Deputy Director of Traffic and Technology, Department for Transport

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