



Department
for Transport

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Nick Collin

Via e-mail: nick@collinconsulting.co.uk

Dear Nick Collin

Thank you for your email of 12 September to the Rt Hon Mark Harper MP at the Department for Transport, about Low Traffic Neighbourhoods (LTNs). As you will appreciate, the Secretary of State receives large volumes of correspondence and is unable to answer each individually. Your letter was passed to Traffic and Technology Division, and I have been asked to reply.

LTNs have no single definition but are a collection of measures aimed at removing through traffic from roads, usually in residential areas. This can be achieved through traffic signed restrictions, or by the use of physical measures such as bollards or planters. The intention is not to prevent access by car, and as such it is still possible to drive to any property in an LTN.

The Government believes that effective traffic management is not about dictating travel choices, but about enabling more choice in how people make their journeys. Local traffic measures must work for residents, businesses and emergency services. The review of LTNs will look at how they are working and whether they are providing the attractive choices for walking, wheeling and cycling that we want to see without unfairly penalising motorists. Changes to local roads should always be made in a way that properly takes account of communities' views and be implemented in a way that does not dictate how people should travel.

The review is now underway. The intention is for it to be a rapid evidence review, focusing on whether LTN schemes have delivered the objectives they set out to and how they took account of communities' views. To ensure the review is manageable in scope and can provide some initial findings relatively quickly, it will focus on LTNs installed since the start of the Covid-19 pandemic and will not be looking at historical street layouts.

As a first step we have asked local authorities to provide information about the number and type of LTNs installed on their roads. This will inform further research and analysis. Once the review is complete, we will consider its conclusions and any next steps. It would be inappropriate to comment on what actions Government may take until that time.

Installation of LTNs and other traffic management measures remain the responsibility of local councils, who are accountable for the decisions they take.

Thank you for taking the time to write in with your concerns.

Yours sincerely
Emily Kenning