



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

7th October 2020

Dear Tony,

I thought I should update you about my recent meeting with Highways England, where I discussed the petition and campaign for resurfacing the M20 between junctions 8 and 9.

As you would expect, I urged that this should be done as soon as possible. They tell me there is a policy to phase out the noisy concrete surfaces and that nationally this will take 15 years. In their next planning period, which covers 2020 to 2025, they will be spending £390m to replace them, and this will be repeated in the subsequent periods.

More importantly for us, some of the early work that they will be doing over the next year will be safety related but will have beneficial effects on the noise level. Between junction 8 and 9 they will be replacing damaged joints and repairing any slabs that have cracked. These are the two things that create the most noise, so I hope this will have some measurable effect. Between 2021 and 2023 they will be working on the replacement of whole slabs, which will further reduce the noise. The rest of the work will be done in their next planning period after 2025.

I appreciate that this is not what either you or I would have wanted, in that I would have preferred the whole work to be done immediately, but I hope at least there will be some benefit to residents over the coming 12 months.

Best wishes.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Damian".

cc. Mr David Porter, Ms Penny Knatchbull

Mr Antony C Bartlett
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