



HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

Melissa Walker
Assistant Clerk
Public Accounts Committee
Palace of Westminster
London
SW1A 0AA

Our Ref: MK54111 JT

18 July 2023

Dear Melissa

I would like to submit the following evidence to the Public Accounts Committee for consideration at tomorrow's session on active travel.

Over several years, I have tried to secure support from National Highways for active travel schemes along the Princess Parkway from my constituency of Wythenshawe to Manchester city centre. None of these schemes have been approved. At a recent meeting with officials from National Highways, I was informed that the reason for this was concern about the high levels of Nitrogen Dioxide along the route, which meant they did not want to encourage people to walk and cycle along it. They have since confirmed this to me via letter and I have forwarded this to the Public Accounts Committee to sit alongside this letter as evidence.

I am concerned about the high levels of nitrogen dioxide that they report. I am also concerned about how we overcome this issue. The Princess Parkway is a major commuter route from the constituency into Manchester. It is hard to envision viable active travel links without including this area. In addition, increased walking and cycling are the only way to encourage more people to use active travel to mitigate against excessive car use and pollution in the first instance. Yet this confirmation from National Highways presents a significant catch 22 scenario to the extension of active travel routes in my constituency unless they can find an urgent way to reduce pollution levels.

I would be very grateful if the Committee could consider this evidence in full and report back any considerations it has in response.

Yours sincerely

Mike Kane MP

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A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike Kane". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first name "Mike" and the last name "Kane" written in a single continuous stroke.

Mike Kane
MP for Wythenshawe and Sale East