

Hi Leanne

The Action Against Wymott & Garth 3rd Prison has asked those with traffic concerns or experience of accidents to contact you.

As both a resident living along Southport Rd and being a Parish Councillor, I can certainly raise my concerns over the expected increase in traffic volumes caused by this new prison. I personally doubt that we have the capacity along Southport Rd for further increases in volume and the mitigation measures I have seen proposed arguably do nothing to mitigate the dangers involved in this. .

The problem we have along the A581 Southport Rd is that it consistently regarded by traffic organisations as being one of the most dangerous roads in Britain. And was actually in the top 10 most dangerous roads at one point. The cause of this hasn't just been excessive speed but driver behaviour, we have so many junctions along the Ulnes Walton stretch of the A581 and every one has seen multiple accidents over the years. Some I have either witnessed myself or have witnessed the consequences of. Unfortunately, drivers can be impatient and will try to beat each other, especially at junctions. We even had a car trying to beat traffic out of the garage across the road, misjudge and ended up on our drive, hitting our car when it was still parked on our drive!.

The second problem I can highlight is that not all accidents that occur are actually picked up in the official statistics. As far as I can remember, if the police haven't been called out and somebody taken to hospital, then they won't be recorded. This seriously gives the wrong impression about the safety of these roads. To illustrate this I will either attach an email or forward you an email I sent to the Clerk of Ulnes Walton informing him of yet another accident that happened within just a few months of each other in 2021. That made a total of 8 that year alone. Few of which will have made the official statistics.

The other problems I have witnessed include drivers mounting narrow pavements in order to overtake waiting cars, I have been hit on my arm by a car mirror while walking down New Lane (which has no footpath) and cars overtaking other cars on the right when they are trying to turn right.

I could go on but hope that gives a flavour of the problem.

Best wishes, Paul Dodenhoff, Chairman Ulnes Walton Parish Council, 202 Southport Rd Ulnes Walton PR26 8LN.