

FAO: Leanne Palmer.

I have very serious concerns about road safety along Southport Road, Ulnes Walton Lane and Moss Lane.

I have been involved in 2 accidents at the top of Moss Lane junction with Ulnes Walton Lane. The most recent one was last year at the junction of Wymott drive and Moss Lane. I was with my friend in her car.

We were approaching the junction of Moss Lane and Ulnes Walton Lane when a red car came out of Wymott drive, went straight into the drivers side of my friends car, stopped for a second and then sped off leaving the scene. It was at 3.20pm, around the time when visitors would have been leaving the prison. My friend and I were very shaken up, but thankfully we weren't seriously injured.

I was also in an accident a number of years ago in a brand new car, that was less than a week old.

I was approaching the Moss Lane/Ulnes Walton Lane junction, on my way to work when a car came speeding round the corner from the Ulnes Walton Lane, into Moss Lane, from Southport road direction. He came round the corner far too fast, as that corner is deceptively tight, hit me, pushing the car completely off the road and into the bush/tree verge.

The car was totally written off, I was injured and I now suffer with my hips as a result of the accident.

I have also been witness to the immediate aftermath of an accident that had just happened at the same junction last year between a 4x4, a van and a car.

This is just my own personal experience of how dangerous, inadequate and unsafe the infrastructure already is, in this area.

Along with that, I have witnessed many, many near misses along Ulnes Walton Lane from both directions.

Buses, wagons and tractors are unable to keep on their side of the road, especially on corners down Ulnes Walton Lane. These are narrow, winding country lanes with no street lighting or pavements, and with some parts of the road having a ditch on one/both sides.

I have lost count how many times we've had to slam on, almost crashed into the bushes and miss by a whisker, larger vehicles, such as goods vehicles and buses.

The roads are not maintained to a good standard and Moss Lane is simply horrendous. Having construction traffic for 5 years, along with more than double the amount of vehicles once the proposed prison would be finished, including a car park that is not big enough, would be an added major hazard within an infrastructure that cannot cope with the amount of traffic it already has. Especially coming right up to the estate where children play. Children would be running out from the excess cars that would have to park on the road or on the estate, due to the car park being inadequate for the capacity it needs to have.

I understand and don't oppose the need for more prisons, but there are several other sites that would be far more suitable and safer to build on, that aren't in the middle of nowhere, and with an infrastructure that could support it and be easier and safer and nearer to amenities for the various access it will require.