

Dear Sir,

Please find attached two photos I took earlier today, I was on Ulnes Walton Lane, approximately 300m south of the junction with Moss Lane, looking south.





The photographs show where a vehicle has clipped the verge and the resulting debris lying on the road surface. I noticed this more than most road users because I was cycling, and the debris means I have to slow down significantly. I also noticed other

vehicles (cars) and the drivers where slowing down to avoid the mud. As a cyclist, I felt quite vulnerable along this stretch of road.

Please note, particularly here and along many other stretches of Ulnes Walton Lane, the hedge is very close to the road. These would not tolerate a HGV hitting them. The verges are also very soft and there are good lengths of verges where they slope towards a ditch. A question needs to be asked if the verges would tolerate the weight of any vehicle without damage being caused.

I suggest that Ulnes Walton Lane is not suitable for high numbers of HGV vehicles to transit it (which has been proposed) because damage to the verges and edge of the road surface will significantly increase the risk of accidents to all road users.

Your sincerely,

David Williams

9 Wray Crescent, Leyland PR26 8NH

On Mon, 1 Apr 2024 at 22:07, David Williams

<[david\\_john\\_williams@yahoo.com](mailto:david_john_williams@yahoo.com)> wrote:

Dear Sir,

Further to my email below and the proposed MoJ "Green Travel Plan".

This evening, I offered a prison officer a lift to Leyland. The officer had been stood at the bus stop on Willow Road for over an hour waiting for transport to the railway station. The bus failed to show and taxis had been ordered then cancelled. The officer lives in Manchester and without a car or driving licence the commute is challenging. Car sharing had been tried and no longer considered an option because at the end of shift all colleagues want to do is go home. Anyone late off shift is dismissed.

When the latest wing builds were built in Wymott Prison, the MoJ said they would put in place a "Green Travel Plan" to encourage prison officers to car share and use public transport and cycle and walk. This evenings experience is an example how past "Travel Plans" have failed to work. Without tangible, proven evidence it is not possible to expect any future "Travel Plans" to be effective to any significant degree.

The officer I gave the lift to said that he/she is planning to learn to drive to make the commute from Manchester to Ulnes Walton a bit easier. It is easy to understand the officer's reasoning. I suggest any future MoJ "Green Travel Plans" will fail simply because the public transport links around Wymott and Garth prisons are at times non-existent and the majority of prison employees will commute in a car. The MoJ and Lancashire County Council have not demonstrated how £100,000 per year for 5 years will improve bus transport. Or, what happens after year 5?

Failed "Travel Plans" mean increased vehicle movements in and around Ulnes Walton. The MoJ and Lancashire County Council have not provided any evidence (tangible or otherwise) that throwing extra money at a failing bus service will work. More to the point, the MoJ cannot force its officers to walk, cycle, car share or use public transport therefore using a car becomes the transport of choice, if nothing else because it can be relied on. Any reduction in traffic volume by a "Travel Plan" should be ignored.

For the same reasons (unreliable or non-existent public transport), then visitors to the prisons will only use a car, further increasing traffic volumes.

In my view, the MoJ Green Travel Plan is a day dream and the planners ought to come to terms with the real world. The local road infrastructure is currently not fit for purpose for the volume of traffic that it needs to cope with now at peak times (and often other times, such as weekend/holiday traffic). A third prison will significantly increase road traffic at peak times, making travel much worse.

Yours faithfully,

David Williams

9 Wray Crescent, Leyland PR26 8NH

On Thursday, 21 March 2024 at 11:41:22 GMT, David Williams <[david\\_john\\_williams@yahoo.com](mailto:david_john_williams@yahoo.com)> wrote:

Dear Sir,

Please see the attached letter from Superintendent Crowe, Lancashire Constabulary dated 11 November 2021.

In it, Superintendent Crowe was asked, "The approach roads to the prisons are country lanes. A LCC survey shows 4000 cars travel along Ulnes Walton Lane on working days. Currently at peak times it is extremely busy. MoJ anticipate that to increase by 2000 vehicles. The MoJ acknowledge there will be issues however they and Lancashire County Council have not provided any tangible evidence on how the traffic will be managed.

The reply was, "*During our consultation with the MoJ we have expressed a view that we believe that the local road infrastructure would be inadequate for the consequential increase in traffic.*" (See extract below, taken from the attached letter.)

- The approach roads to the prisons are country lanes. A LCC survey (attached) shows 4000 cars travel along Ulnes Walton Lane on working days. Currently at peak times, it is extremely busy. MoJ anticipate that to increase by 2000 vehicles. The MoJ acknowledge there will be issues however they and Lancashire County Council have not provided any tangible evidence on how the traffic will be managed.

*During our consultation with the MoJ we have expressed a view that we believe that the local road infrastructure would be inadequate for the consequential increase in traffic. Responsibility for road engineering does however lie with Lancashire County Council (LCC).*

The roundabout at the junction of Ulnes Walton Lane and Southport Road proposed by the MoJ only partially addresses some of the issues (ie. it makes it a little easier for larger vehicles to negotiate the junction). The proposal fails to address anything else and I suggest the Superintendents view remains valid, ie. the police/emergency services state that the local road infrastructure would be inadequate for the increase in traffic the third prison would bring.

Yours faithfully,

David Williams

9 Wray Crescent, Leyland PR26 8NH

On Monday, 18 March 2024 at 11:09:09 GMT, David Williams <[david\\_john\\_williams@yahoo.com](mailto:david_john_williams@yahoo.com)> wrote:

Dear Sir,

Planning Inspectorate Reference: APP/D2320/W/22/3295556

This regards the public inquiry about the proposed third prison at Ulnes Walton, Lancashire.

Today (18 March 2024), we received notification through the post of the public inquiry to be reopened on 25 March 2024. It is disappointing that this is to be a "virtual" event. Given the significant impact this proposed development will have on locals lives, I would much prefer to see the white of the eyes of the Ministry Of Justice (MoJ) representatives.

I am a regular cyclist (last year, I cycled some 8,500 miles). I choose not to cycle at "peak" times because of the increased risk of an accident due to the much higher volume of traffic on the roads however sometimes it is unavoidable. Peak "working" times is one time to avoid however I have noticed during weekends through traffic significantly increases during the day along Southport Road, Ulnes Walton Lane, New Lane, Lydiate Lane and Leyland Lane.

There are numerous aspects to road traffic safety in Ulnes Walton. Making significant changes to one junction may impact other junctions. The proposed roundabout at the junction between Ulnes Walton Lane and Southport Road is likely to increase the flow of traffic at the junction. This may be detrimental to traffic traveling along Ulnes Walton Lane particularly at the junction between Ulnes Walton Lane and Moss Road. Pedestrians and cyclists at both junctions will be exposed to greater risk of an accident because they will be exposed to an increase in traffic volume plus at the roundabout no "escape" (ie. pavement) has been proposed around it.

All the road safety issues identified during the first inquiry remain extant and the proposed roundabout can only exacerbate traffic issues at other, close by junctions and fail to improve traffic issues along Ulnes Walton Lane.

If permitted, this prison will be a direct neighbour of ours (ie. over our garden fence). At all times through this process, The Ministry Of Justice has failed to act in a reasonable neighbourly manner. (Eg. At the initial virtual consultation, our concerns were whitewashed.) Further, it is disappointing that the Government are opting to force this matter through without proper, informed discussion or consultation with its neighbours about the consequences of such a scheme. The government ought to reconsider alternative sites that are probably more cost effective and have less of an impact on local infrastructure.

Your sincerely,

David Williams

9 Wray Crescent, Leyland PR26 8NH