HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

Justin Madders MP
Minister for Roads
Department for Transport
Great Minster House
33 Horseferry Road
London
SW1P 4DR

Our Ref: LA16422 20 November 2026

Dear Justin,

Re: Consultation on improving moped and motorcycle training, testing and licensing

We are writing as a cross-party group of MPs and Peers to urge the Government to adopt a more strategic and holistic approach to moped and motorcycle licensing reform. While we support the consultation's objectives regarding training and rider safety, we are concerned that its narrow scope fails to address the broader barriers preventing the L-Category sector from fulfilling its potential as a cornerstone of the UK's sustainable transport future.

Licensing reform must not be viewed in isolation or primarily through the lens of improving safety. It is inextricably linked to the Government's wider ambitions for access to employment, cleaner transport, economic growth and reindustrialisation.

We agree that safety is paramount. However, we are concerned that a focus on additional restrictions, without considering wider consequences, risks counter-productive outcomes. Should entry into legitimate riding become prohibitively difficult or expensive than it already is, we anticipate an even bigger rise in the use of illegal e-bikes - vehicles capable of motorcycle performance without the benefit of training, insurance or safety equipment. Making the legal and safer route accessible is a vital component of a comprehensive strategy to combat illegal e-bike use.

Beyond safety, there is a substantial, underdeveloped opportunity to harness mopeds and motorcycles as everyday transport. For many of our constituents, they offer a vital, low-impact and low-emission means of reaching work, education, and training, particularly where public transport provision is inadequate. Furthermore, a more accessible domestic market, supported by a clear regulatory framework, could significantly boost investment in UK manufacturing and skilled employment, placing the sector at the vanguard of the Government's reindustrialisation agenda.

To ensure the Government's response to the consultation effectively balances these objectives, we request the following:

1. A meeting with you, involving representatives from this group of MPs and Peers, to discuss these concerns directly. We would also welcome the inclusion of technical expertise from the Motorcycle Industry Association (MCIA) to ensure policy solutions are practically viable.

2. We ask that the Department publishes its full response to the consultation by the end of the year and formally instruct the DfT/DVSA Motorcycle Strategic Focus Group to work with the Government on its response and subsequent decisions.

We look forward to receiving your response and confirmation of a meeting date.

Best wishes,

Luke Akehurst
Member of Parliament for North Durham

The Rt. Hon Richard Holden MP, Shadow Secretary of State for Transport
Member of Parliament for Basildon and Billericay

Greg Smith MP, Shadow Transport Minister
Member of Parliament for Mid Buckinghamshire

Danny Beales MP
Member of Parliament for Uxbridge and South Ruislip

Maureen Burke MP
Member of Parliament for Glasgow North East

The Rt Hon Sir Iain Duncan Smith
Member of Parliament for Chingford and Woodford Green

Mary Glindon MP
Member of Parliament for Newcastle upon Tyne East and Wallsend

Fabian Hamilton MP
Member of Parliament for Leeds North East

Wera Hobhouse MP
Member of Parliament for Bath

Sharon Hodgson MP
Member of Parliament for Washington and Gateshead South

Gurinder Singh Josan MP
Member of Parliament for Smethwick

Andy MacNae MP
Member of Parliament for Rossendale and Darwen

Julie Minns MP
Member of Parliament for Carlisle

Jim Shannon MP
Member of Parliament for Strangford

Rebecca Smith MP,
Member of Parliament for South West Devon

The Rt Hon Sammy Wilson MP
Member of Parliament for East Antrim

The Rt Hon. the Lord McNally

The Baroness Ritchie of Downpatrick

The Lord Storey CBE