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## Dear Caroline

Thank you for your letter of 18 May 2018, regarding the Cycling and Walking Safety Review consultation.

Cycling and walking have proven benefits to air quality, mental and physical wellbeing, the high street and community life. The Call for Evidence is part of an open and comprehensive review of how the Department can improve safety for all road users and encourage more people to walk and cycle. The Department invited views online, by letter, via planned workshops around the country, and also worked closely with Cycling UK and other organisations.

The Government's ambition, as set out in the Cycling and Walking Investment Strategy, is to make walking and cycling the natural choice for shorter journeys, or as part of a longer one.

The Government response to the consultation on driving offences and penalties relating to causing death or serious injury was published in October last year. This confirmed proposals to increase the maximum penalty for causing death by dangerous driving and causing death by careless driving while under the influence of drink or drugs from 14 years' imprisonment to life, and to create a new offence of causing serious injury by careless driving. The consultation response can be found online at:

https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/driving-offences-and-penalties-relating-to-causing-death-or-serious-injury

These proposals for changes in the law will be brought forward as soon as Parliamentary time allows and will provide an opportunity for further debate. These will take account of and incorporate all of the Government's proposals for safer roads, including those arising from the Cycling and Walking Investment Strategy (CWIS) review.

I am pleased to hear of your interest in the CWIS Safety Review Call for Evidence that closed on 1 June 2018. Over 10,000 responses were submitted and are being considered. The Department will issue a response in the Autumn.

**JESSE NORMAN** 

Jesse home