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Your reference:
Our reference:
Date: 26 January 2015

Dear David

**Transport Safety Commission inquiry:
Clarification of legal duties and further information**

Further to your email of 18 January 2015 I have outlined below details of the legal powers and duties of the Department of the Environment in respect of transport safety.

The Department of Environment is one of the 12 Departments which make up the Northern Ireland Executive, in accordance with section 21 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998. One of its strategic objectives is to deliver improved road safety and better regulation of the transport sector. The legislative framework for the Department's work in this area is contained in the following legislation:

- The Transport Act (NI) 1967;
- The Road Traffic (NI) Order 1981;
- The Road Traffic (Type Approval) (NI) Order 1985;
- The Road Traffic (NI) Order 1995;
- The Road Traffic Offenders (NI) Order 1996;
- The Road Traffic (New Drivers) (NI) Order 1997;
- The Road Traffic (Driving Disqualifications) (NI) Order 2003;
- The Road Traffic (NI) Order 2007;
- The Taxis Act (NI) 2008; and
- The Goods Vehicles (Licensing of Operators) Act (NI) 2010.

In particular, Articles 51 and 52 of the Road Traffic (NI) Order 1995 provide for the promotion of road safety. These provisions enable the Department to revise the

Highway Code, to disseminate information and advice relating to the use of the road and to carry out road safety training.

The Northern Ireland Road Safety Strategy to 2020 sets out the NI Government's approach to improving road safety for all road users. It was developed and agreed by DOE and its road safety partner organisations: the Department for Regional Development; the Police Service of Northern Ireland; the Department of Education, the Northern Ireland Ambulance Service and the Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service.

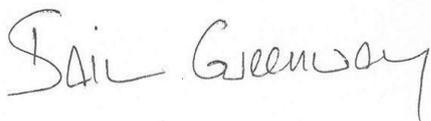
The Strategy sets out 4 strategic targets and 222 action measures to reduce deaths and serious injuries on our roads. The 4 strategic targets are:

- To reduce the number of people killed in road collisions by at least 60%;
- To reduce the number of people seriously injured in road collisions by at least 45%;
- To reduce the number of children (aged 0 to 15) killed or seriously injured in road collisions by at least 55%; and
- To reduce the number of young people (aged 16 to 24) killed or seriously injured in road collisions by at least 55%.

DOE takes the lead in reporting against the delivery of the Strategy. However implementation of each individual measure is the responsibility of the organisation with lead authority in that particular area.

I can also confirm that the powers and duties of the Department do not extend to investigation.

I hope that this information is helpful to you.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Iain Greenway". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Iain Greenway
Director of Road Safety and Vehicle Regulation