



HOUSE OF COMMONS  
LONDON SW1A 0AA

The Rt Hon. Grant Shapps MP  
Secretary of State for Transport  
Department for Transport  
Great Minster House  
33 Horseferry Road  
London  
SW1P 4DR

23/06/22

RE: Pollution from Tyres

Dear Grant,

I hope this letter finds you well.

I am writing to you today to communicate my concern regarding the limited regulation of tyre production. It may come as a shock to hear tyre wear produces almost two-thousand times more air pollution than modern car exhausts. With 36,000 people dying each from air pollution, I am sure greater regulation on the industry should receive cross-party support.

As the Chair of the Westminster Commission for Road and Air Quality, I have made it my mission to ensure the inalienable right to breathe clean air. I am sure you know of the devastating death of, nine-year-old, Ella Adoo-Kissi-Debrah. She was the first person in the UK to have air pollution listed as the cause of death on their death certificate. Ella's inalienable right to clean air was overlooked and so her life was sadly lost.

While the HSE has put regulations into place for worker safety around hazardous materials, the issue has not been addressed in its entirety. Limiting the use of, rather than exposure to, toxic fumes would prioritise the health safety of employees as well as of the general public.

Emissions analytics have determined the wear rate and toxic chemical content in different tyre brands vary greatly, with some producing significantly more pollution than others. Therefore, a simple solution would be to limit the level of toxic chemicals in tyres. Doing so would greatly decrease levels of air pollution and ultimately save countless lives.

Barry Sheerman MP  
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Thank you for taking the time to consider my concerns on this issue. I look forward to your response

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B. Sheerman'.

Barry Sheerman MP

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