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Dear Mr Draper and Mr Fribbins,

Thank you for your recent letter sent to Neil Davies highlighting your concerns; he has asked me to respond to you.

In considering the growth requirements for Medway over the Local Plan period it is important we do so in a sustainable way, and provide for the necessary infrastructure to meet the growth needs identified through the Government's methodology. You refer to the Housing Infrastructure Fund of £170m, which is very important in forward-funding that infrastructure, but as you quite rightly point out, it is only a part of the wider infrastructure that is necessary to serve the developments in prospect. As part of the Local Plan process we have published an Infrastructure Delivery Plan and within the emerging draft Plan there will be site allocation policies that link to the delivery of the associated infrastructure to enable it to be delivered. This work is ongoing and will be the subject of further consultation.

I understand the concerns you have expressed around the maintenance of our road network, and we carry out inspections as part of a rolling programme with frequency based on a hierarchy according to classification and road use. Any safety defects identified will be ordered for repair, via our Contractor.

We also undertake a number of resurfacing schemes each year, on both roads and pavements, according to their technical condition, ensuring a worst-first approach is taken. Sometimes a road may not look aesthetically pleasing, but that does not always mean its condition is not acceptable.

Various technical survey methods are employed, in addition to identified roads being inspected by our Engineers, so that an ongoing, rolling 10 year programme is established. Some roads will move up the list depending on how quickly they deteriorate, and new roads will be added. The number of schemes completed each year is dependent on annual funding levels, and roads are treated consistently across the entire Medway network.

We have taken on board your comments concerning inconsiderate parking from commercial and private vehicles, and would encourage any dangerous parking such as on yellow lines or dropped kerbs to be reported to our Parking Enforcement Team via the hotline number on 07718130962 or online at:

[https://www.medway.gov.uk/info/200136/parking\\_roads\\_travel/583/report\\_illegal\\_parking\\_in\\_medway/2](https://www.medway.gov.uk/info/200136/parking_roads_travel/583/report_illegal_parking_in_medway/2)

If there are restrictions in place, our Parking Enforcement Team can carry out enforcement, however, if it is delivery vans blocking pavements then this needs to be reported to the Police, as we do not have the powers to enforce pavement parking, unless the vehicle is parked on a pavement adjacent to double yellow lines. We are investigating whether we can acquire powers to enforce pavement parking and if you would like updates on this, please contact our Parking Design team via email at [parkingdesign@medway.gov.uk](mailto:parkingdesign@medway.gov.uk)

Car ownership and usage has been increasing for some time, and this trend looks certain to continue. To counter this and to encourage residents to move away from car use to more sustainable transport options, we will continue to invest in and promote bus use, cycling, and walking. Two such projects we are currently working on are our schemes delivered under the Active Travel Fund (more details can be found here - [https://www.medway.gov.uk/info/200140/environment\\_health\\_and\\_safety/1255/active\\_travel\\_fund](https://www.medway.gov.uk/info/200140/environment_health_and_safety/1255/active_travel_fund)) and our ongoing work to deliver a bus improvement plan for Medway (details of which can be found here - [https://www.medway.gov.uk/info/200161/travel/565/bus\\_operators/4](https://www.medway.gov.uk/info/200161/travel/565/bus_operators/4) ).

The issues you have raised around off-road bikes and quad bikes are, as I'm sure you are aware, a Police matter, however, we have ensured that your concerns have been passed on through the Community Safety Partnership, as well as your comments around Policing visibility. Could I also suggest that the Parish Council takes up the opportunity to speak directly with the Community Safety Unit Inspector via the monthly surgeries that take place on the first Tuesday of each month between 5pm and 7pm. These are currently via MS Teams and are communicated to elected Ward Members as well as Parish Councils each month by our Democratic Services Team.

I hope you find these responses helpful, and thank you for taking the time to raise these issues with us.

With best wishes



Mr Richard Hicks  
Director of Place & Deputy Chief Executive  
Medway Council