

DRAFT LETTER FOR INDIVIDUALS TO SEND TO THEIR OWN MP (WALES AND SCOTLAND ALSO, AS THOSE MPS GET TO VOTE) WITH THE 'LARA FACTSHEET' CLIPPED TO THE LETTER, OR ACCOMPANYING THIS LETTER IF SENT AS AN EMAIL. IF YOU ARE A MEMBER OF A LARA MEMBER ORGANISATION, PLEASE GIVE YOUR OWN LARA REPRESENTATIVE A COPY OF YOUR LETTER AND THE MP'S REPLY. PLEASE NOTE THAT IT MIGHT BE NECESSARY TO WRITE AGAIN ONCE THE BILL EMERGES FROM THE HOUSE OF LORDS. FEEL FREE TO PUT THIS INTO 'OWN WORDS' - OWN CIRCUMSTANCES.

Dear Ms/Mr Name of MP,

You will be aware of the Deregulation Bill which is currently at Committee stage. I am very concerned that amendments to the Bill will unfairly and unreasonably impact upon my interests.

I am a [e.g. classic/vintage motor trials entrant / motorcycle touring rider / Landrover enthusiast] and I attach a short briefing which outlines key issues and concerns for the motoring and motorcycling community.

The issues of motorised access to unmetalled public roads is not something we feel should be dealt with via the Deregulation Bill. The issues involved can sometimes be complex and vary from place to place. In many locations motorised access causes no concerns at all. However, we are aware that groups opposed to the continuation of historic motorised access rights have been lobbying Parliament in the hope that the Deregulation Bill can be used as a vehicle to remove such rights in a blanket, country-wide manner. Such a move would be deeply regulatory and would affect thousands of currently law abiding people. Such a move will, in places, have unintended adverse consequences for householders and others.

I am not unsympathetic to the concerns that have been raised about motor vehicles on some public roads, and do agree that a way forward needs to be found which can fairly accommodate all with an interest in these matters.

Rather than use the Deregulation Bill as a 'blunt tool' on the issue, the matter of the motorised use of unmetalled roads should be referred to the Minister for Rural Affairs to investigate (as he has indicated that he will). He can then consider what issues need to be tackled and task DEFRA's *Stakeholder Working Group* to investigate objectively. This will allow an evidence-based, consensus approach to emerge.

I therefore ask you to support the above approach and to vote against any amendments to ban motor vehicles from unmetalled roads when the Bill returns for Report and Third Reading.

Yours sincerely,