

PE1616/E

Scottish Government submission of 29 November 2017

“Calling on the Scottish Parliament to urge the Scottish Government to make it an offence to park in front of a dropped kerb.”

Thank you for your letter of 27 October 2017, on behalf of the Public Petitions Committee, in which you seek notification of the findings of the Scottish Government’s consultation in mid-December, and an update from the Scottish Government on the actions that it intends to take in relation to the concerns raised in the above petition.

Private Member’s Footway Parking and Double Parking (Scotland) Bill

As you will be aware, Sandra White’s (MSP) Footway Parking and Double Parking (Scotland) Bill sought to introduce new prohibitions on pavement parking, parking adjacent to dropped kerbs and double parking. Although Ms White’s Bill fell on 23 March 2016, the then Scottish Government, at the stage 1 debate on the general principles of the Bill, made a commitment to look further at the issues raised by that Bill and to introducing new suitable legislation (if re-elected) in the next parliamentary session.

Accordingly the Scottish Government published a public consultation on 31 March entitled “Improving Parking in Scotland” which among other matters, sought views on developing new restrictions on pavement parking, double parking and parking at dropped and raised kerbs.

The consultation which closed to the general public on 30 June and to local authorities and Regional Transport Partnerships on 31 August 2017 generated 661 responses which we are currently analysing.

As already announced in this year’s Programme for Government, the Scottish Government intends to bring forward a Bill that includes provisions to tackle inconsiderate and irresponsible parking and the findings from the consultation will inform those provisions. We are also continuing to work with local authorities and other stakeholders on developing solutions to tackle inconsiderate and irresponsible parking.

We will keep the Committee updated as the work progresses.

I hope the Public Petitions Committee finds this helpful.