# Three demands Template letter for Councillors

Please ensure you change the red text to suit your locale/circumstances, and feel free to remove the paragraphs on parking or bus lanes if they are not relevant to your council. Adding personal details to explain the impact of specific local schemes on you as a rider would also be useful (e.g. longer journey, loss of a specific parking spot, increased risk due to narrowed lanes etc)

Dear cllr xxxx

I am writing to you as a constituent and motorcyclist about the current works to reallocate road space during the transport restart following lockdown. I have been riding motorcycles for x years and am also a member of the Motorcycle Action Group.

I appreciate the need to increase social distancing space for pedestrians and to encourage cycling, but believe the council is missing a trick.

As a motorcyclist my transport mode is inherently compliant with social distancing guidelines, and is a far better alternative to the car when it comes to trips I no longer feel comfortable taking on public transport, but which are too long to walk or cycle. Motorcycles cause less congestion, air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions than cars.

There are indeed growing numbers of people realising this if sales figures of motorcycles and scooters are anything to go by.

I am disappointed that the council is not actively encouraging more people to take to motorcycles rather than cars when the preferred options of walking and cycling are not viable.

I note that recent work in XYZ location has removed motorcycle parking spaces. Please can the council ensure that, rather than removing motorcycle bays, additional motorcycle spaces are provided, and with rails to allow secure parking for myself and other motorcyclists? I believe that the Motorcycle Action Group have made the very valid point that cycle rails can be dual purpose benefitting both cyclists and motorcyclists if sensibly positioned. This seems like an excellent idea as it will cost the council nothing to kill two birds with one stone.

The proposals for new bus and cycle lanes on XYZ and ABC streets, are another area that could benefit from a little creative thought. Motorcycles could be given access to these routes at no extra cost, thus improving safety and a little incentive to choose a motorcycle rather than a car. Motorcycles in bus lanes do not endanger pedestrians or cyclists, nor do they delay bus services, so it would seem like another cost free and sensible decision.

I would appreciate if you could raise these suggestions with the relevant council officers and join me in asking that the transport restart here in Localtown encourages the use of motorcycles for longer trips that cannot currently be safely taken on public transport.

I would be happy to discuss this further or, if you prefer, you could ask the Motorcycle Action Group for help and ideas. The Motorcycle Action Group has proven a very helpful organisation to me and they are always happy to help with practical ideas and suggestions. The office number is 01926 844 064.

I would be very keen to hear your thoughts and would appreciate a reply. I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely

MAG Member