



Department
for Transport

From the Secretary of State
The Rt Hon Mark Harper MP

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Our Ref: MC/435231

APPG Transport Safety

c/o APPG Transport Safety Secretariat
Jamie Hassall
Executive Director
PACTS

12 September 2023

Dear Mr Hassall,

Thank you for copying to me the letter of 9 August to the Prime Minister, sent on behalf of the All-Party Parliamentary Group for Transport Safety, about the European Union's (EU) General & Pedestrian Safety Regulation (GSR).

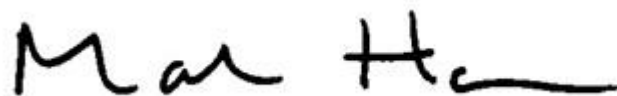
The GSR covers a broad range of vehicle safety technologies and officials of the United Kingdom (UK) were involved in developing these requirements. However, as they apply after the 31 December 2020 they were not retained, and fitment of these technologies is currently optional for vehicles sold in Great Britain (GB). The GSR does apply in Northern Ireland under the Windsor Framework and vehicles sold there must be fitted with these technologies as they are introduced in the EU.

External analysis looking at the specific benefits and implications of mandating these technologies in GB is currently underway and is scheduled to report later this year. Any decision to mandate some or all these new technologies will require consultation and legislation to amend the GB type approval scheme.

Although Government has made no decision yet as to which technologies might form part of our national vehicle approval requirements, the Department remains a member of the European New Car Assessment Programme (Euro NCAP). Euro NCAP is an independent, not-for-profit, organisation that provides motorists with objective information on the crash safety of cars. The 1-5 star rating system helps consumers compare the safety potential of different models; helping to include safety in their purchasing decision.

In turn, this provides market incentive to drive delivery of innovative road safety solutions into the vehicle fleet far quicker than regulations alone and the programme currently incentivises many of these technologies.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark Harper". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

The Rt Hon Mark Harper MP

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR TRANSPORT