

**Mobility and Access Committee for
Scotland (MACS)**

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Edward Mountain MSP
Convener of the
Rural Economy and Connectivity Committee

Rec.committee@parliament.scot

Our ref:
2019/08

Date:
14 March 2019

Dear Mr Mountain,

**RURAL ECONOMY AND CONNECTIVITY COMMITTEE: STAGE 1 REPORT ON THE
TRANSPORT (SCOTLAND) BILL**

Having given evidence to the Rural Economy and Connectivity Committee on the draft Transport (Scotland) Bill, the Mobility and Access Committee for Scotland (MACS) was interested to read the Committee's Stage 1 Report.

We were particularly pleased to see the REC Committee recommend that the 'loading exemption' on pavement parking should be completely removed from the Bill.

We are also pleased to see the REC Committee recommend the inclusion of measures to stop parking that blocks dropped kerbs.

We hope that the Cabinet Secretary will take on board these suggestions to the Transport Bill as both of these measures would make a big difference to disabled peoples' ability to get around their local neighbourhoods, both as pedestrians and in order to travel by bus and indeed car.

On behalf of MACS can I thank you for the opportunity to contribute to this process and offer our assistance to your committee on any matters relating to the travel and transport needs of disabled people.

I have enclosed our overarching strategic remit for your information.

Yours sincerely,

Linda Bamford

National Convener of MACS

www.macs-mobility.org

Vision

"MACS believes in a Scotland without the barriers that isolate and exclude disabled people from making their choice of successful door to door journeys"

Strategic Remit

- To give Scottish Ministers advice on aspects of policy, legislation and practice affecting the travel needs of disabled people.
- To take account of the broad views and lived experiences of disabled people when giving advice.
- To encourage awareness amongst disabled people in Scotland of developments which affects their mobility, choices and opportunities.
- To work closely with SG and ensure our work programme complements the work being undertaken by the Disabled Persons Transport Advisory Committee (DPTAC), the Equality and Human Rights Commission and other organisations , voluntary and statutory.
- To promote the travel needs of disabled people with designers including transport planners and operators so that these are fully taken into account in the development of vehicles and infrastructure and delivery of services.
- To monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of our work against the above aims and objectives in improving travel opportunities for disabled people in Scotland.

Copy to:

Transport Scotland, Director for Bus, Accessibility and Active Travel – Laura Murdoch
MACS Sponsor – Transport Scotland, Head of Accessible Travel – Claire Smith
MACS Members