

Councillor Robert Taylor – Cabinet Member for Transport, Jobs and the Local Economy

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Please Contact:

Cllr Robert Taylor

6th August 2024

Cllr Paul Thorp

Elected Member

Via email: paul.thorp@rotherham.gov.uk

Dear Cllr Thorp

Council Meeting – Wednesday 17th July 2024

Thank you for your supplementary question to Council on 17th July 2024, where you questioned whether the road signs on Westgate did conform to all the legal requirements. You gave a number of examples of the road signs on Westgate and explained why you believed they were not conforming to the Highway Code. You stated that you had seen an accident occur and also referenced rule 140 in the Highway Code that explained when a single white line should be used for cycle lanes and when it needed to be a dashed line rather than a solid line.

I have liaised with the Transportation team and can advise that the Highway Code provides guidance on how road users should behave, but it does not regulate the use of road signs or road markings. These regulations are established through national legislation, which is further supported by publicly available guidance such as LTN 1/20 Cycle Infrastructure and the Traffic Signs Manual. It's important to note that the Highway Code should not be used as a reference for highway design.

For example, Rule 140 of the Highway Code states that drivers must not enter mandatory cycle lanes, which are marked by a solid white line. However, drivers may

enter advisory cycle lanes, marked by a broken white line, when necessary, such as to avoid oncoming vehicles, as seen on Westgate.

Also, further to the questions you raised at Transportation Advisory Group on 31st July, it was agreed that Matt Reynolds would meet with you to explore in further detail all the issues you raised there, and at Council on the 17th July.

I hope you find this information helpful.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R Taylor', with a small flourish at the end.

Councillor Robert Taylor
Cabinet Member for Transport, Jobs and the Local Economy