

Chris Rowley M.St (Cantab) Chief Constable

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Mr Mick Cartledge Chief Executive - Burnley Borough Council Town Hall Manchester Road Burnley Lancashire BB11 9SA

6th February 2023

Dear Mr Cartledge,

Thank you for your letter dated 1st February 2023, where you have raised concerns relating to accessible streets. I have looked into the points you have raised in detail with T/ACC Procter, Territorial Operations, and want to work with you to resolve the issues you highlight.

With regards to the misuse of a bicycle or scooter in an anti-social manner thereby causing harassment, alarm, or distress, this is addressed in Burnley Town Centre in terms of a Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO).

I am aware that the Burnley Neighbourhood Team are aware of the PSPO and will commit to identifying those breaching the PSPO and provide their details to Burnley Borough Council with a view to completing enforcement action.

I will also ensure, through the East Senior Leadership Team, that all our Response Policing Teams working across the Borough are aware of the PSPO and forward any relevant breaches to Burnley Borough Council.

In support of this legislation, I am led to believe that the Burnley Police Team have made 58 referrals to the Council for breaches of the PSPO.

I am aware that nationally, there has been an increase in the number of E-bikes and E-scooters on the roads and pavements, and Burnley is no exception. The Burnley Neighbourhood Policing Team will act appropriately where riders cause a nuisance or danger to road users or members of the public, within available legislation.

Whilst I am reassured that the Burnley Neighbourhood Policing Team have a good working relationship with all partners including Burnley Borough Council, we will continue to work proactively across the Community Safety Partnership to address these concerns.

With regards to pavement obstruction and parking issues on dropped kerbs, I am sighted that the Burnley Neighbourhood Policing Team are proactively working with partners to reduce the amount of motor vehicles obstructing pavements and dropped kerbs, in response to complaints from local residents, business and councillors.

During the recent Neighbourhood Policing 'Week of Action', Burnley's Neighbourhood Team arranged a joint operation in Padiham working with Local Councillor and MP Anthony Higginbotham, along with Lancashire County Council. This operation looked to both enforce and educate anyone parking in an inconsiderate manner in the area. I will ensure that our Local Policing Teams continue to work proactively with partners to reduce these types of complaints and offences.

If there is a clear obstruction that is blocking the highway or access / egress from a driveway (therefore dropped kerb), if appropriate, we have powers to remove vehicles. These would be considered on a case-by-case basis. We do however acknowledge that, due to the landscape of Burnley's residential areas, we must take a proportionate and pragmatic approach to enforcement with education across the partnership and, where appropriate, identify engineering requirements to reduce or remove localised issues.

Yours sincerely,

Chris Rowley
Chief Constable