



Department for Transport

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20 March 2025

Dear Mr Fleming,

Thank you for your report of 13 January made under the Coroners and Justice Act 2009 and the Coroners (Investigations) Regulations 2013, following the inquest you conducted into the death of Angela Carney. I am responding as Minister for the Future of Roads.

I was saddened to hear of Ms Carney's death and offer my sincere condolences to her family and friends.

The regulatory requirements for the construction of mobility scooters is the responsibility of the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA). The Department for Transport (DfT) has responsibility for the use of these vehicles in the built environment, and the relevant regulations are *The Use of Invalid Carriages on Highways Regulations 1988*.

The DfT regulations specify the circumstances where mobility scooters may be used and contain provisions on the performance requirements these vehicles need to meet. Regulation 8 requires braking systems to be maintained, to be able to bring the mobility scooter to rest in all conditions of use, and capable of holding it stationary on a one in five gradient. The regulations permit a transmission brake which operates on the electric motor, and from the information available to us, the mobility scooter was compliant with the 1988 Regulations.

I am aware that the MHRA has also been asked to consider this case, and that they have provided a response which sets out the changes to the standard in 2009 and 2022. These changes should ensure that the scooter has effective brakes when it is in freewheel mode.

Officials in my Department will continue to liaise with the MHRA to establish whether anything further can be done to prevent such a tragic death happening in future; for example, by providing information to mobility scooter users highlighting the risks of operating in freewheel model and warning users about the absence of a secondary brake on older models of scooter.

Best wishes,



MINISTER FOR THE FUTURE OF ROADS