



Department for Transport

Rachael C Griffin
Senior Coroner for
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From the Parliamentary Under
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16 July 2025

Dear Ms Griffin,

Thank you for your report of 6 May made under the Coroners and Justice Act 2009 and the Coroners (Investigations) Regulations 2013, following the inquest you conducted into the death of Charlotte Katie Mae Avis. I am responding as Minister for the Future of Roads.

I am deeply saddened by the circumstances of Charlotte Katie Mae Avis's death, and I would like to extend my condolences to her family.

I want to assure you that the Government treats road safety with the utmost seriousness. Whilst UK roads are among the safest in the world, there is no room for complacency, and I have carefully considered your report and its recommendations.

You expressed concerns regarding the layout of the road as a factor in the collision. Responsibility for making decisions about the roads under its care rests with the traffic authority, based on its knowledge of the area and taking into account local needs and circumstances. Local authorities, in this case Dorset Council, are free to make their own decisions about the design of the roads and streets under their care, provided they take account of the relevant legislation. This includes setting local speed limits and introducing traffic calming measures such as speed cameras and speed activated warning signs.

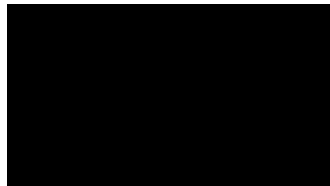
It is up to the authority to decide what work to undertake, although it may well take into account the severity, causes and frequency of crashes in deciding what to prioritise.

Local authorities are also responsible for day-to-day management of their road networks, including any necessary road and street works, and ensuring that their actions are within the law and are accountable to local people for their decisions and their performance.

Local councillors are responsible for ensuring that local decisions about street infrastructure take account of the needs and opinions of local people. The Department for Transport has published guidance on the design of traffic calming measures in Local Transport Note (LTN) 1/07 'Traffic Calming' which is available at: www.gov.uk/government/publications/local-transport-notes.

I hope you will understand why I consider that the Department does not need to take any action regarding this incident.

Best wishes,



MINISTER FOR THE FUTURE OF ROADS