

From the Minister of Finance

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Dear Louise

CORR-1336-2021: Louise McLornan Belfast City Council - Road Safety Review

Thank you for your correspondence of 14 October 2021 regarding the Road Safety review in inner city Belfast.

I appreciate the issues faced by communities in inner city areas as a result of road traffic volumes and the wide ranging impact this has on parking, congestion, safety around schools and air quality and I support the review into how to improve road safety in these areas.

My officials have been involved in pre-consultation engagement with DfI on the new Road Safety Strategy and I would encourage the Council to participate in this exercise.

As regards the comments that investment has been constrained by the Department for Infrastructure's budget allocations, I would like to point out that the Executive's 2021-22 Final Budget included £722.5 million capital for the Department for Infrastructure, which is an increase of 29% over the previous year and is a record level of investment in infrastructure. It is a matter for the Infrastructure Minister to decide how to allocate her budget depending on her priorities.

I would encourage the Council to engage further with Minister Mallon on this very important area.

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**CONOR MURPHY MLA
MINISTER OF FINANCE**