



Department for Levelling Up,
Housing & Communities

Rt Hon Michael Gove MP

*Secretary of State for Levelling up, Housing and
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Minister for Intergovernmental Relations

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Des Paul,

15th September 2023

Thank you for your letter of 17 August highlighting the impact of the Mayor of London's decision to expand the Ultra Low Emission Zone (ULEZ) in London on the residents and businesses of Harrow. I was pleased to learn of the steps you are taking to upgrade Harrow's electric vehicle charging infrastructure in response.

As you mention, Lord Moylan tabled an amendment to the Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill at report stage (Amendment number: 282N). This amendment introduces a new power for London borough councils which are meeting air quality standards and objectives (under the Environment Act 1995), or have an approved plan to do so, to opt out from future road user charging schemes proposed by Transport for London. It also provides the Secretary of State with a new power to intervene in certain circumstances.

I believe Lord Moylan's amendment provides a targeted, proportionate and sensible rebalancing of borough interests with mayoral powers in London. I am therefore pleased to confirm that the Government will be supporting this amendment.

Over two decades on from the establishment of the Greater London Authority, it is right that we take this opportunity to review how London's devolution settlement is working in practice, adjusting where necessary.

Thank you again for all that you are doing to support the residents and businesses of Harrow.

*Yours,
Michael*

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