

**Subject:** Cleansing of HE trunk roads (APTRs) - transfer to HE  
**Date:** Monday, 14 May 2018 at 12:55:35 British Summer Time  
**From:** Peter Silverman - Clean Highways  
**To:** Bernadette Kelly - Permanent Secretary DfT  
**CC:** Layla Moran MP  
**Category:** H Eng, APTRs, DfT

Dear Ms Kelly,

I was interested to read [Jesse Norman MP's reply to Layla Moran MP's question](#) regarding the transfer of responsibility for the removal of litter from trunk roads to Highways England.

You may recall I raised this with you in [my e-mail of 8<sup>th</sup> August 2017](#) to which [Andre Appiah replied on your behalf on 17<sup>th</sup> December](#).

I was pleased to read that Mr Norman has now asked the DfT to work with Highways England to assess the costs involved.

The fact that HE are still having to work with Local Authorities to improve collaborative working demonstrates the impracticality of this irrational and costly division of responsibilities.

In making the assessment I trust that the DfT and HE will take into account that HE's responsibility will not be just to "remove litter" from these roads, as and when they feel it might be necessary, but to comply with the EPA S89(1) duty to *ensure, so far as is practicable, that these highways (including of course the verges) are kept clear of litter and refuse.*

Each stretch of road will therefore need to be cleaned on a regular basis to prevent the accumulation of litter. It will not be sufficient to just to carry out cleansing as and when other maintenance tasks are being performed.

I hope these comments are of help.

Kind regards

Peter Silverman  
01895 625770  
07799 404766  
[www.cleanhighways.co.uk](http://www.cleanhighways.co.uk)  
[Have your say](#)  
[Duty to keep highways clear of litter](#) (video)