

Susan Charles statement – Cabinet 9th September 2021

Ring of steel.

The decision made at the last Cabinet meeting to look at the 'Ring of Steel ' and the problems this will incur for the vulnerable was good news ...THANKYOU.

Would you also consider the difficulties that Bicycles, E scooters Skateboards etc. also have on the vulnerable?

The streets in Maidenhead and Windsor are banning their use in pedestrianised areas, saying this is promoting anti-social behaviour (not from everyone ofcourse) but it has been witnessed many times particularly by a local partially sighted colleague who's white cane was knocked out of her hand when she crossed a road at Greenpark with no cycle path markings. The cyclist, no bicycle bell warning, silent...apart from the abusive language that followed from the cyclist.

I do question their ability to cycle if they didnt see the white cane being held in front of the partially sighted pedestrian.

I've watched cyclists weave in and out scaring and destabilising pedestrians.

A Policeman has been injured, a three year old Girl left with life threatening injuries, and an Elderly Gentleman having to get off his mobility Scooter to remove an E scooter dropped in the his pathwayhad a heart attack and died.

These are some of the incidents where E scooters have reached the news this year.

So far at least Six deaths in the UK.

with an estimated 200,000 accidents by the end of the year.

The National Federation of the blind are asking for these trials to end before there are more accidents and deaths.

Generally fit and able bodied cyclists,

but many using electric powered bikes at 12 MPH so why are they not cycling on the roads???

Shopmobility many years ago reduced the speed of powered wheelchairs and mobility scooters to a walking speed of 4 MPH. TO PROTECT THE GENERAL PUBLIC.

Then theres the question of suitable accessible ramps in Keynsham High St. whilst refurbishment continues.

For every 1"/3cms of kerb height.....

20" /50cms of ramp length is needed,

ie a 4"/10cms kerb as there has been for several weeks needs a ramp 7'6"/ 2mts long as some wheelchairs have a mechanism to stop the chair tipping backwards...hence too steep a ramp and your stuck and cant go forward or back.

During this time residents still need to go about their normal living this includes EVERYONE able and a non abled.

I am ashamed to admit I voted Lib Dem at the last election.

The slogans ' Live Well Banes residents'

+ 'Let's look after each other ' does this just refer to the Covid 19 pandemic ?.

Many vulnerables have been isolated, in lockdown and are not even out and about yet and dont know that in many areas from Blue badge use restrictions, fast cyclists, scooters, thoughtless placing of street furniture, and ever increasing A boards in a different place dailyare there to make life difficult.. physically and mentally.

What are we doing to are vulnerable people. My question = ARE THEY NOT WANTED IN THIS AREA ????