SOLICITORS

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Simon Jones M25 DBFO Regional Director 4A Federated House London Road Dorking RH4 1SZ Your Ref: HA/M4/41/10/15

Our Ref: CAL00112

23<sup>rd</sup> August 2013

Dear Sir

## Road Traffic regulation Act 1984

The Secretary of State's Traffic orders (Procedure England and Wales) Regulations 1990.

The M4 Motorway (London Borough of Hounslow) (Bus Lane)\_ Order 1998 Revocation Order 201 (sic)

We are instructed by Clean Air in London who has passed to us your letter of 21<sup>st</sup> August 2013. We are writing as a matter of urgency to ask that the Secretary of State re-consider his decision to make the proposed Order revoking the bus lane on the M4 motorway.

It would appear from your letter that you accept that the relevant area is in breach of the Environment Act section 86 (Air Quality) and objective thresholds set out in the UK Air Quality (England) (Amendment) 2002, and that the proposed Order would make things worse, albeit that "the changes are small and will return to pre-proposal levels within two years" . You also say that "therefore the impact on air quality of suspending the bus lane is concluded not to be significant."

Such a conclusion is plainly irrational and unlawful. Taking steps which will worsen air quality in this area is a breach of the Directive 2008/50/EC and Regulation 17 of the 2010 Environmental Protection (Air Quality Standards Regulations) 2010. Furthermore, any breach of this law designed to protect human health must be

SOLE PRINCIPAL: KATE HARRISON

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significant; a decision to increase pollution when it is already above lawful limits is significant and it follows that a full environmental impact assessment, with proper consultation, should have been carried out.

We are sending a copy of this letter to DEFRA, to the London Borough of Hounslow and to the Mayor of London whose policies and actions on air quality would be adversely affected by the removal of the M4 bus lane.

Please acknowledge safe receipt of this letter.

Yours faithfully

Harrison Grant

Copies to

DEFRA Nobel House 17 Smith Square London SW1P 3JR

Rob Gibson London Borough of Hounslow Civic Centre Lampton Hounslow TW3 4DN

Mayor of London Greater London Authority City Hall The Queen's Walk London SE1 2AA