

CORRESPONDENCE

**MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF
ADARE-RATHKEALE**

FEBRUARY, 2020

- Letter received on the 21st January, 2020 from Minister Shane Ross in reply to correspondence in relation to the new proposals for the penalty points scheme.

An Roinn Iompair,
Turasóireachta agus Spóirt
Department of Transport,
Tourism and Sport



Oifig an tAire | *Office of the Minister*

Ms. Karen Butler
Limerick City and County Council
Áras Seán Finn
New Line
Rathkeale
Co. Limerick



20th January 2020

Ref: TTAS-MO-05690-2019

Dear Ms. Butler,

Thank you for your recent correspondence in relation to my forthcoming legislation to introduce a system of graduated penalties for speeding.

Research shows us that, regardless of the initial cause of a collision, it is speed which determines the outcome - put simply, the greater the speed, the greater the damage. For example, a pedestrian who is struck by a vehicle travelling at 50kph has a 90% chance of survival, while this reduces to 10% if the vehicle is travelling at 60kph.

Although the amount of deaths and serious injuries on our roads has decreased in recent years, unfortunately last year we saw a small increase, and speeding remains one of the main causes of fatal road collisions.

The penalty point system was designed to improve driver behaviour on our roads. Drivers who are detected committing a road traffic offence, and who have penalty points endorsed on their licences, are expected to amend their driving behaviour for the better, and to help make our roads safer for all.

Every death is one too many, and I am confident that the introduction of graduated penalties for speeding, whereby the greater the speed the greater the penalty, will have a positive effect on driving in Ireland.

Yours sincerely,

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A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read 'Shane Ross'.

Shane Ross

Minister for Transport Tourism and Sport

The Minister is a Designated Public Official under the Regulation of Lobbying Act, 2015 (details available on www.lobbying.ie)