



REMAIN AND REPORT: How MPs can help

WHY REMAIN AND REPORT?

Our campaign is based on a simple premise – that knowingly leaving the scene of a road traffic collision where someone has been fatally or seriously injured, should be treated as a serious criminal act.

We have four key calls:

1. Charges that are fit for purpose
2. A reasonable maximum reporting time
3. Licence suspension for the sake of safety
4. Appropriate terminology

All road deaths and serious injuries have devastating impacts. They are sudden, shocking and bring great pain. However, the knowledge that a driver has failed to remain at the scene brings an additional layer of horror. Families are often tortured at the thought that while their loved one was left lying in the road, a driver was concocting a story or covering their tracks. Leaving the scene is often explained away as a driver acting out of shock. It is our belief that it is a callous act, which is separate from, and additional to, any dangerous or careless driving which may or may not have taken place in the collision.

In 2021, 80 people were reported killed and another 2,132 reported seriously injured in collisions where the driver left the scene (DfT, 2022). Many of those killed were pedestrians, at night or alone at the time they were hit.

The Department for Transport (DfT) have said they are considering a consultation to include Fail to Stop – we would very much like this to happen – it would be an encouraging and welcome step.

Having a loved one killed or seriously injured in a road traffic collision is horrific – for most families bereaved in this way it will be the worst moment of their entire lives. Finding out that their loved one was knowingly abandoned by a driver, makes this even worse.

We know that such drivers do not set out to intentionally kill or injure - but their behaviour in choosing not to remain at the scene is an intentional act. These drivers are not running away from a dent in a bumper, they are deciding to abscond, leaving a human being with serious injuries, without help. This choice can mean the difference between a person surviving and dying. Our laws do not currently reflect this as well as we believe they should.

If you would like to know more about Remain and Report, please contact us on the email addresses below:



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Below are some suggested questions, which you may wish to ask.

1 CHARGES THAT ARE FIT FOR PURPOSE

Do the government agree that new offences of failing to remain at the scene of a fatal or serious injury road traffic collision should be introduced - as at the moment, such drivers are charged with the same offence as those fleeing the scene of 'damage only' collisions?

ASKED

2 A REASONABLE MAXIMUM REPORTING TIME

Do the government agree that the 24-hour time period allowed to report a road traffic collision should be reduced - as this currently provides an incentive for drink drivers to leave the scene (and sober up)?

3 LICENCE SUSPENSION FOR THE SAKE OF SAFETY

Do the government agree that new offences of failing to remain at the scene of a fatal or serious injury road traffic collision should be introduced - as at the moment, such drivers are charged with the same offence as those fleeing the scene of 'damage only' collisions?

4 APPROPRIATE TERMINOLOGY

Are all MPs aware that the DfT has recently announced it will refer to collisions rather than accidents? Will the government actively ensure MPs understand why this word is inappropriate - and ensure any future legislation refers to collisions not accidents?

5 THE ROLE OF PASSENGERS

Will the government look to introduce a requirement for passengers involved in road traffic collisions to call for help/seek medical assistance for those that may need it?

6 CONSULTATION

Will the DfT commit to publishing a consultation on Fail to Stop, and if so, when?

7 OUTCOMES

Will the Home Office ask police services to monitor the outcomes of collisions where drivers have failed to remain at the scene, in order to improve the evidence-base on the number prosecuted and type of sentences received?

