25 October 2018

Dear Jesse,

The Committee has received a great deal of correspondence from owners affected by problems caused by their Ecoboost engines overheating.

The DVSA provided a briefing for the Committee in April 2018 on the problems affecting 1.0L Ecoboost engines. I am writing to ask for an update as there have been significant developments with Ford announcing a change in their policy on compensation and the recall of vehicles with 1.6L Ecoboost engines where overheating could lead to a vehicle fire.

In providing an update for the Committee, I would be grateful if you address the following questions:

1. What steps has the DVSA taken to satisfy itself that Ford’s assessment of the fault with 1.0L Ecoboost engines, that there is always a warning before the failure occurs, is correct?
2. Whether the DVSA is monitoring the service action by Ford to replace the degas pipe on Ecoboost engines?
3. What discussions the DVSA, ministers and officials have had with Ford about the company’s policy for offering compensation for engine failures?
4. What reports the DVSA has received of fires in vehicles with Ecoboost engines, how these reports have been investigated and for what reason it agreed to a recall of these vehicles?

5. What steps the DVSA has taken to satisfy itself that the problems with overheating due to the degas pipe and those attributed to a failure of the cylinder head are not related?

6. What assessment the DVSA and officials in the Department have made of communications with customers about the issues affecting cars with Ecoboost engines?

Should you or your officials have any questions in relation to the above, please feel free to contact the Committee Clerk, Gordon Clarke (020 7219 6242; clarkeg@parliament.uk).

I look forward to receiving your response shortly.

Yours sincerely

Lilian Greenwood MP
Chair of the Transport Committee