



[HOME](#) [ABOUT SHRA](#) [JOIN](#) **[NEWS](#)** [LETTERS](#) [DEVELOPMENT](#) [RENT CHARGE](#) [CONTACTS](#) [WATERLINES](#)
[EVENTS](#) [HARBOUR AMENITIES](#) [POLICING UPDATES](#) [TRANSPORT](#) [MAPS](#) [PHOTO GALLERY](#) [TRADES](#) [LINKS](#)

SHRA and Harbour News

We welcome submissions of news stories or information on Harbour issues. [Please email the web manager.](#)

29 March 2017 - The **'Save the DGH' campaign** [↗](#) are very interested to hear from anyone who has had a baby on the way to the Conquest or been affected by consultant-led Maternity services not being at Eastbourne DGH. We are still fighting for these services to return and it would help us hugely to have this information. We want to publicise this to highlight the issue which we believe is affecting women and their babies and families.



We are also interested in hearing from those who have been affected by 24/7 consultant-led Paediatrics not being at Eastbourne DGH and also emergency and high risk General Surgery and emergency and high risk Orthopaedics. Please can you email Liz Walke on info@savethedgh.org.uk

29 March - The **Harbour Medical Practice** [↗](#) which has been rated 'requires improvement' in its latest Care Quality Commission (CQC) report, has said it is making good progress and will meet the required standards in its next inspection. [Read more... ↗](#)

29 March - Premier Marinas are now recruiting spring and summer seasonal staff - an opportunity to get into the marine industry with a Gold accredited Investor in People. [For more information and how to apply, click here... ↗](#)

28 March - Have your say about SHRA. We are conducting a short, anonymous survey on the relevance and role of the Residents Association. [Click here to complete the survey on Google Forms... ↗](#)

28 March - **Update from Pevensey Coastal Defence Ltd** - The forecast for spring tides at the end of the week remains good, so we still hope that the majority of work will be completed by Friday 7th April, with just some tidying up the following week. Most works are expected to be between Cooden and Beachlands. [Website... ↗](#)



25 March - Eastbourne Borough Council is consulting on a new Statement of Community Involvement which sets out the standards and approaches that the Council will use to involve the community and other interested parties in planning matters. [Read the consultation documents... ↗](#)

24 March - CCTV has been upgraded at Sovereign Harbour. Premier Marina say as well as the operation camera upgrades, they have invested £20,000 to install four new cameras in strategic areas of the marina, which will be supported by a new 24-hour recording system. [Read more... ↗](#)

19 March - **Newhaven National Coastwatch Institution (NCI)** needs volunteer watchkeepers to help safeguard the lives of yachtsmen, fishermen, canoeists and other users of coastal waters. [Read more... ↗](#)

Local News Sources

[Follow @SovHarRA](#)

[Sovereign Harbour Community](#)

BBC SOUTH EAST TODAY



BBC SUSSEX

Eastbourne Herald

More RADIO



[Click here for our News Archive...](#)

17 March 2017 - Development Update. Latest information regarding sites 1 & 8.

Site 1, White Point – the EA have raised safety concerns for the public while the routine shingle shift is happening. In accordance with the planning guidance for the site, it will be 'closed to the public' at the owners discretion. At the appropriate time a barrier will be erected at both ends of the site, with signage directing people via Martinique Way.

Site 8, Port Moresby Place - there was a break-in two nights ago with theft and damage involved. A security guard will be in place overnight for the next little while and a quietened generator will run to maintain lighting. Hopefully this will not cause any disturbance.

Source: [Sovereign Harbour Neighbourhood Panel minutes](#)

15 March - The opening date for a new Wilko store at Sovereign Harbour has changed. The shop will now open a day later on Thursday April 13 in time for the bank holiday weekend. [Read more...](#)



14 March 2107 - RYA Award for Harbour Resident. Fifteen-year-old, South Harbour resident and windsurfer Sam Williams has been presented as the Royal Yachting Association (RYA) London and South East Champion.



Sam is looking for local sponsors to assist him with furthering his potential to compete at Olympic level. At Easter he will be competing at the UK Youth Nationals where they will be selecting a squad to try and get qualified for the Youth Olympic Games in Argentina in 2018. [Read more...](#)

07 March 2017 - Unlimited return visits to Redoubt Fortress.. This

Year Eastbourne residents can enjoy as many return visits as they like to the Redoubt Fortress this year, as Heritage Eastbourne launches plans to offer a special Residents Ticket. Costing the same as a standard Redoubt Fortress ticket, residents need only pay once to return again and again and discover the many 'Faces of the Fort' in a brand new immersive exhibition, along with the chance to experience life as it was for recruits, staff, prisoners and families over 200 years ago!!



All standard tickets and Residents tickets to the Redoubt museum cost £4.50 per adult, £2.50 per child, £3.25 for concessions or £12 per family. Residents Tickets can be obtained by presenting either an Eastbourne Residents Card or a copy of a valid Council Tax bill at the time of purchase. [Website...](#)

07 March 2017 - Beach work update from Pevensey Coastal Defence Ltd. Immediate repairs following the last set of storms will be completed on Friday, so machines will then leave the beach.



Although spring continues to creep closer, there are still some big tides to get through at the end of this month. If the weather remains favourable, we expect to do a final two week recycle starting on 27th March, finishing around 7th April.

Having said that, for the last three years the final machine has not left the beach for summer until the start of May. Hopefully this will remain one of the quieter springs on the south coast. [Website...](#)

06 March - Six year-old's remarkable support for Eastbourne RNLI. [Read more...](#)

04 March 2017 - SHRA Chairmen steps down - at the 2016 Sovereign Harbour Residents Association Annual General Meeting, the chairman, Jan Weeks, advised the members that she would be standing down at the 2017 meeting. She has, however, decided to stand down with immediate effect.

Jan said: "I have served on the SHRA committee for twelve years, six of them as chairman. Although I originally decided to resign at the 2017 AGM, I felt this would leave a void after the meeting that could take a while to fill. By standing down now, the committee will have the opportunity establish a new structure, and set out and its vision for the future of the Association for presentation to members at the AGM in May."

"There is still much to do, and I wish the new committee every success. I'd like to thank the members for the support they have given me over the past years and I'm sure the new chairman can look forward to the same."



Jan Weeks

3rd March 2017 - A planning application (170162) has been submitted for the construction of a community centre at Easter Island Place (Site 6). The design of the centre has been further revised from the design approved in July 2015.



The SHRA and SHCA issued the following joint statement.

"Although we are delighted that Eastbourne Borough Council (EBC) has been able to acquire space for the Sovereign Harbour Community Centre on Easter Island Place (formerly Site Six), we are disappointed that the design has again been changed and the size further reduced. Residents made it abundantly clear that they expected the design already approved for Site Five to be implemented at a central location.

The proposed design is the third revision of the original design put forward by Sovereign Harbour Ltd and, as with each previous revision, the usable area of the centre has been further reduced. The original design was supported by a robust business plan created by the Sovereign Harbour Community Association (SHCA). This plan was built around an 800m² footprint with 749m² of usable space and it is unlikely that it would be viable in the greatly reduced area of the current proposal.

It is very important for the sustainability of the Sovereign Harbour neighbourhood that this community centre should be financially self-sufficient so, before we could comment further on the application, or advise our members, we would need to examine the revised EBC business plan that will be used to support it."

2nd March 2017



Lock Maintenance

Notice is hereby given that Lock 1 (Furthest lock from the Harbour Office) is closed for routine annual maintenance from Monday 6th March 2017.

This lock will be de-watered and will remain closed for approximately four weeks.

De-watering operations will commence on **Monday 6th March 2017**. During this time there shall be **NO PEDESTRIAN ACCESS OR LOCK MOVEMENTS** to facilitate safe crane access.

An alternative pedestrian route is available around the perimeter of the Inner Harbour using the South & West bridges.

Once lifting operations are complete, lock movements will be re-instated to one lock only and a temporary pedestrian bridge will be installed reinstating public access across both lock gates.

Please accept our sincere apologies for any inconvenience this may cause. If you have any questions, please contact the Harbour office.

Marina Management
Issued: 02/03/2017

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation

The Marina Office can be contacted 24 hours on (01323) 470099 or VHF Ch17



1st March 2017 - Volunteers needed at the Beachy Head Countryside Centre - the Gateway to the South Downs National Park. Working two or three mornings/afternoons per month (approx 3hrs) from April to end of October.



It's a great place to work and to meet lots of tourists from all over the world who come to visit this iconic beauty spot. A car is essential as no buses until June. If you are interested please email Hazel - info@beachyhead.org.

27th February 2017 - PCD Update. Just when we thought spring was around the corner, winter is sending us a none to gentle reminder that we are not there yet.



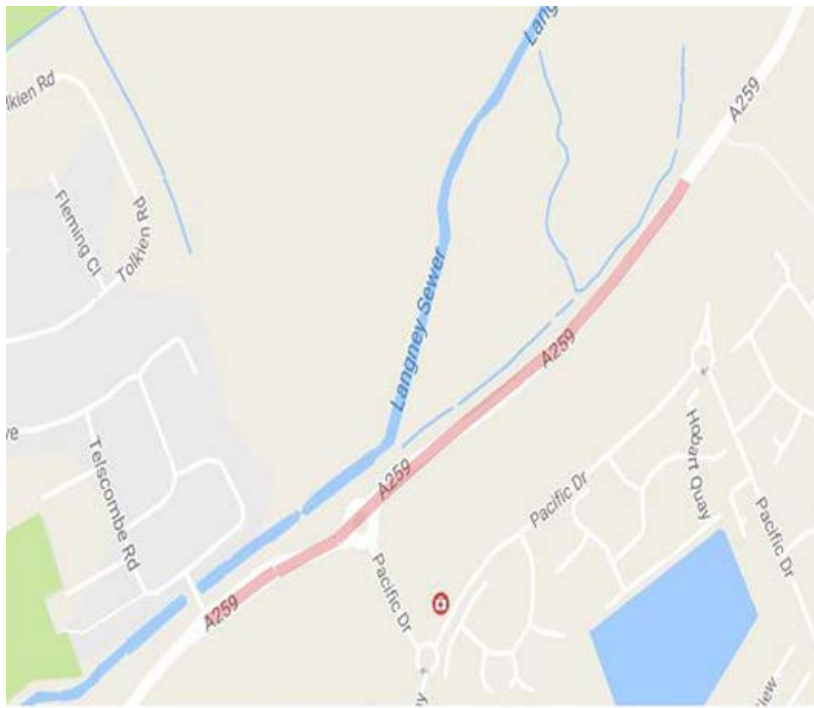
Beach erosion is expected to occur on each of the next three night-time tides, before things calm down again. A recycling team and an extra bulldozer has been ordered, but at this time I don't know when they will arrive, hopefully in time to start repair works during the day tomorrow.

The bulldozer will work this afternoon and early tomorrow morning at Normans Bay East, since this is where the beach is currently narrowest. Once here I would expect the recycling team to remain for at least two weeks

It is expected that the Environment Agency will be issuing a Flood Alert to cover the 36-48 hours or so.

Ian Thomas
Project Manager
Pevensey Coastal Defence Ltd
email: pcdl@pevensey-bay.co.uk
website: www.pevensey-bay.co.uk

22nd February 2017 - East Sussex Highways has announced that it will be conducting footway resurfacing works in Pevensey Bay Road, Eastbourne. These works will start on Thursday 2nd March and are scheduled to take seventeen days. A 30mph speed limit will be in force for the duration of the works.



Temporary Speed Limit



17th February 2017 - The SHRA Helpline number has changed.

The new number is now active; please leave a message and somebody will return your call. Calls are not retrieved every day so, if your enquiry is urgent, please use e-mail. [Click here for all contact details.](#)



15th February 2017 - Dog walkers have brought to our attention that solidified Palm Oil has been washed up on the harbour beaches.



Palm oil is toxic if dogs eat or lick it and, unfortunately, they are attracted to it. The material currently being washed up tends to be in the form of pieces from a flat plate of the material and it looks similar to a slice of white coconut ice about 1cm thick. Having said this, larger blocks are possible. Premier Marinas have been alerted.

An Internet search indicates that although Palm Oil is toxic to dogs it isn't to humans. It is sometimes used for weight loss and increasing the body's metabolism. As food, it is used for frying and industrially it is used for manufacturing cosmetics, soaps, toothpaste, waxes, lubricants and ink.

14th February 2017



On Saturday 11 February Sovereign Harbour Yacht held a successful fundraising event for Eastbourne Sea Cadets with £300 being raised.

At the end of the evening Commodore Dickie Bird stated 'We are happy to continue to show our support to the Sea Cadets and look forward to building on the relationship over the coming years.' PO Taylor expressed his thanks to the Yacht Club for the evening and the money raised. He also thanked the club for the support they have given in relation to the dinghy sailing at the Marina and was looking forward to developing this relationship.

10th February 2017 The latest issue of the East Sussex Library Information Newsletter is now available to download. In this issue:



- Volunteer and teach others IT skills
- What was life like in East Sussex during WWI
- World Book Day 2017
- A book I have loved
- New DVDs for February

[Download the newsletter](#) > >

6th February 2017 - When making your Rent Charge payment, be sure to add the statement below to your remittance advice.

"Please note that my payment is made under protest and that my sending it is not to be interpreted as confirmation of my satisfaction with or acceptance of the validity of the current invoice or its level. My payment is made without prejudice to any action taken, or assertions made by me or by others on my behalf, at any time."

If you make your payment by BACS transfer, e-mail the statement, with your address and plot number to sovereignharbourtrust@cripps.co.uk. Please note this is different to the address given in Waterlines. Read more on our [Rent Charge page...](#)



4th February 2017 - Premier Marinas has reported that the West Harbour bridge is now fully operational.



4th February 2017 - The East Sussex Highways February newsletter is now available to download. In this issue:



- Potholes
- Peacehaven Cycle Route
- Work in February

[Download the newsletter](#)

3rd February 2017 - The February issue of Waterlines Online is now available

to download from the website. In this issue:

- Time to move on
- Marina Rent Charge

[Click here to download.](#)

3rd February 2017 - Due to a fault, the West Bridge will remain in the raised position until further notice.

Premier Marinas believes the fault has been identified, and it is hoped the bridge will be back in operation some time tomorrow (Saturday). However, this cannot be guaranteed.



2nd February 2017 - With summer not too far away, Buzz Active has some exciting new offerings:

- Instructor Training
- SUP and kayak tours on the River Cuckmere
- Improvement works at the River Cuckmere
- Group activities at Buzz Active



[Click here for more information.](#)

1st February 2017 - The latest edition of Bourne to Recycle news, is focusing on glass. Glass is perfect for recycling – it can be recycled into new bottles and jars again and again. And again!

The UK currently recycles around 50% of container glass (like bottles and jars) and while this figure has doubled over the last five years it still lags behind other countries. For example, both Switzerland and Finland recycle more than 90% of their glass. (Source www.recyclenow.com)



Recycling glass in Eastbourne is easy. It is collected from your green recycling box as part of your kerbside collection and there are bottle banks at bring sites across the town. However, there is still more we can all do, such as remembering to recycle clear food jars which are often forgotten. [Download the newsletter](#)

26th January 2017 - A number of residents have received their Marina Rent Charge invoice, and the remainder will be arriving in the next few days.

Despite the very clear legal opinion obtained by the SHRA that the charge is unlawful, and the efforts of the SHRA and Caroline Ansell MP, the Environment Agency continues to demand this payment.

Although it is manifestly unfair, we would urge you to make the payment but, as in previous years, add the following statement:

"Please note that my payment is made under protest and that my sending it is not to be interpreted as confirmation of my satisfaction with or acceptance of the validity of the current invoice or its level. My payment is made without prejudice to any action taken, or assertions made by me or by others on my behalf, at any time."

This doesn't, however, mean that the struggle has been abandoned, it will continue for as long as it takes. Read more on our [Rent Charge page...](#)

26th January 2017 - Caroline Ansell MP has issued the following statement regarding the Care Quality Commission and East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust.

"I couldn't be more pleased at the significant improvement that has taken place at the trust and I'd like to thank everyone working at Eastbourne District General Hospital for all their efforts.

The CQC report said that there has been transformed organisational culture and this is due to good leadership tapping into the wonderful staff at the frontline who have always offered good patient care.

This change is something I have seen on my regular visits to the hospital and it has been achieved across the board in a very short space of time.

The hospital is highly valued by everyone in Eastbourne and Willingdon so this news is also good for public confidence and I'm sure progress will continue.

The trust has been at a low ebb these last few years and there is still much to do, but I am confident this particular patient is firmly on the road to recovery."



26th January 2017 - Following the granting of planning consent for the development of Site Three as a "Fishing Quay", the Fisheries and Marine Environment New Economics Foundation has issued a survey to support funding bids.



[Click here to complete the survey](#) and enter for the draw to win a side of delicious, locally oak smoked, salmon.

25th January 2017 - PCD Update. The weather has stayed benign this week allowing access to the beach at Langney to be maintained even as the size of the beach reduces, so we will continue bypassing shingle round Sovereign Harbour until Friday. By doing the extra few days now, and if the weather remains favourable over the next 6-8 weeks, we may not need to go back on to Langney beach until next autumn.



Of course if the weather changes then we could be back to square one. Until it does, we have no works scheduled other than the bulldozer doing minor repairs at various places along the frontage.

Ian Thomas
Project Manager
Pevensey Coastal Defence Ltd
email: pcdl@pevensey-bay.co.uk
website: www.pevensey-bay.co.uk

20th January 2017 - The organisers of the Eastbourne International Balloon Festival have announced that within half an hour of opening the booking site for the Festival on Thursday evening over 400 had booked their tickets and by 10pm over 1,000. The festival will be held on 29th and 30th July in Hampden Park.



Why book when the Festival is free? Firstly there will be a prize draw with the winner having a free hot air balloon ride (to use or give away) and secondly it helps to give an idea of numbers, as this is year one. [Click here to make sure you are in the draw for the balloon experience.](#)

19th January 2017 -In response concerns expressed by residents, developers have issued the following update.



"Site One , now 'White Point'. Ground-workers have now returned and piling starts on 13th February. They are using a system which involves piles being pushed rather than hammered, so hopefully noise and disruption will be to a minimum. It is expected to be about a three week process.

Site Seven C, now 'Macauley Place'. Road and services work is under way. First housebuilding due in March. Some piling is needed but same format as above.

Site 8, 'Port Moresby Place'. Despite outward signs, a lot happened/happening inside. First couple of plots now nearly finished on dry lining with external render "weather watching."

13th January 2017 - Recycling will finish today, with bypassing of shingle round Sovereign Harbour to start on Monday. This is initially planned for one week only, but may extend for a day or two into the following week if conditions allow.



Current forecasts suggest that winds will remain predominantly from the north for 10 days or so, and with no big spring tides due for several weeks, work should soon be confined to just using the bulldozer for a while once bypassing is complete.

Ian Thomas
Project Manager
Pevensey Coastal Defence Ltd
email: pcdl@pevensey-bay.co.uk
website: www.pevensey-bay.co.uk

12th January 2017 - In response to concerns expressed by a number of Sovereign Harbour residents, Caroline Ansell MP has issued the following statement.



"Although the harbour charge is now in its second decade and each household has a legally binding commitment to paying it, I have always believed it be an inherently flawed charge. I have campaigned alongside the Sovereign Harbour Residents Association (SHRA) and your County Councillor David Elkin for a fairer deal since 2014.

WE HAVE TAKEN THIS TO THE HIGHEST LEVEL POLITICALLY. In 2015, the Secretary of State came to the Waterfront to hear campaigners. She then called the Environment Agency (EA) to Westminster to meet with us and hear our challenge.

Following that, the EA was charged to review the current sea defence strategy and answer the charge: do sovereign sea defences provide 'cross subsidy'? ie in part, pay for other homes across the area to be protected. Is the current strategy the most efficient and cost effective way to provide protection?

WE HAVE TAKEN THIS TO LEGAL OPINION. We have challenged the lawfulness of the changes to the 1988 Southern Water Agreement in 2001, and have obtained opinion of counsel that it is indeed unlawful. The EA's legal department has always supported the current arrangements around maintaining sea defences and how that is financed. We pushed the EA to seek a second, independent, opinion, which it did; it did not differ in its conclusions to those originally stated. Whether the SHRA wants to pursue a legal challenge through the courts remains an option, and their Barrister believes there are strong grounds

WE ARE EXPLORING ALL AVENUES. On a different tack, Councillor Elkin and I are working locally to negotiate a longer term, more sustainable sea defence scheme which takes in a far greater sweep of coastline than the 800m of the Sovereign Harbour development and, one which brings in Eastbourne Borough Council (EBC). EBC is the authority responsible for sea defences and they maintain Eastbourne defences by way of grant and EA bids.

I will be working with your local councillors and with my parliamentary neighbour Huw Merriman who represents Bexhill Battle to further this wider work

With the assurance of my continuing commitment to seeing a fairer deal."

12th January 2017 - The organiser of Sovereign Shines have issued a big thank-you to everyone who took part in their enormously successful, inaugural *Sovereign Shines* charity campaign.



The organisers said, "As this was only our first year we did not expect so much take-up, help, encouragement and positive feedback... at the final count we collected **£405** for the **RNLI** and we were very proud of some of the very creative light installations that were on show.

The judging evening at The Waterfront was a great success and there were a variety of category prize winners that collected a range of prizes donated by the various sponsors.

The Sovereign Shines event is planned to happen again in 2017 and the goal is to get hundreds of harbour residents and boat owners to take part so that we can raise even more for charity and also that we can create a brilliant, annual community event. Look out for more information about the 2017 event later in the year.

Thanks again to everyone who took part and special thanks to Premier Marinas, the Berth Holders Association, The Waterfront Traders and Mr Paul Metcalfe."

**A funeral service for Angelo Errigo
will be held in All Saints' Church,
Grange Road, Eastbourne
On Friday 20th January 2017 at 11am**



Angelo passed peacefully away on Boxing Day morning,
surrounded by his loving family,

after a long struggle against cancer.


[Visit the Eastbourne Herald website to view tributes to Angelo](#) 

9th January 2017 - Although the south avoided the worst of storms Barbara and Connor, there are couple of areas where some additional shingle moving is required. Before machines that were parked up for Christmas disappear it makes sense to do this work before they are taken elsewhere.



Today they will start at Cooden and by Friday will have reached Sovereign Harbour, when they will finish.

It is likely that a week of bypassing shingle from Langney beach to the north of the harbour will follow next week, but that will be confirmed later in the week.

Ian Thomas
Project Manager
Pevensey Coastal Defence Ltd
email: pcdl@pevensey-bay.co.uk
website: www.pevensey-bay.co.uk 

6th January 2017 - Eastbourne and Willingdon MP Caroline Ansell has thrown her support behind a Parliamentary Bill to set up a national Rail Ombudsman.



The new watchdog would scrutinise performance and complaints and represent the interests of passengers. It would also be able to fine train operating companies for poor service, late running and cancellation of trains.

"This bill will go some way to address the enormous problems passengers have in getting a fair deal from train operators when services do not come up to scratch," said Caroline.

"The Southern Rail fiasco have sadly shown how the system for pursuing complaints and getting a refund for shoddy services is simply not fit for purpose, needs radical overhaul and must be more effective.

"But the issue of poor rail services is not confined just to our part of the world, so a national ombudsman seems like a positive step forward to raise standards and allow better and timely compensation for passengers when the service is poor."

Caroline said present compensation practices mean Network Rail, which runs the tracks, gives money to the train operating companies for issues like points failures but these operating companies do not have to pass the cash onto passengers and they often they keep the money.

Direct compensation to passengers must also be simplified to make it less bureaucratic so that passengers actually lodge a claim and get compensation easily.

"This bill has my wholehearted support and I will be lobbying ministers to get it government support so that it has a real chance of becoming law.

"For far too long rail passengers have been getting a bad deal across the board and the Government must do more to empower the public on this issue."

The Ten-Minute Rule Bill was presented by Tim Loughton on 20th December, supported by Caroline, and it will have its second reading on the 24th March.

6th January 2017 - Caroline Ansell urges Eastbourne Residents to have their say on sentences for those who cause death by dangerous driving

Eastbourne and Willingdon MP Caroline Ansell is urging local residents to have their say during a government consultation on sentences for those who cause death by dangerous driving.

Caroline has spoken in Parliament on the issue and is a campaigner for tougher sentences for those who kill while behind the wheel.

Her actions come on the back of the deaths of Maria Smith and Richard Lewis-Clements in Eastbourne by drink and drug driver Jodan Hunt last year.




"It's clear from a host of cases across the country that the sentences for those who take a life through dangerous driving often receive a prison term that is simply not long enough for such a loss and the grief caused to loved ones left behind," said Caroline.

"I am pleased the Government is looking closely at this issue and I will contributing to the consultation and urging ministers to act quickly to toughen up sentences for the offence of death by dangerous driving and to look at removing the option of a careless driving charge when a life is lost.

"I will also be asking them to impose a lifetime driving ban on those convicted of the offence, which is not the case at the moment, and a point that causes even more upset for those who lose a family member.

"Of course, no sentence will bring back a life lost but the prison terms the courts should be able to impose must adequately reflect the seriousness of the crime and I believe the majority of the public do not believe this is the case presently."

The public consultation is now open for comments and will close on 1st February. [Click here to take part.](#)  The consultation is looking for views on the following;

- The distinction between 'careless' and 'dangerous' driving
- A perceived 'gap in the law' for causing serious injury by careless driving
- Maximum penalties for causing death
- Driving disqualifications.

[Click here for our News Archive...](#)