

**From the office of the  
Minister of the Environment**



Department of the  
**Environment**

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Dear Lord Mayor

Thank you for your letter of 4 April 2014, asking that I look favourably upon introducing statutory provision to prohibit the erection of election posters along the route of the Giro d'Italia, until after the event is over.

You may be aware that I met with representatives of the main political parties on 31 March 2014 to discuss the possibility of a voluntary ban on the display of election posters along the route of the Giro d'Italia from 9 – 11 May 2014. At that meeting, there was widespread acceptance on a voluntary ban, but it was emphasised that this needed to be reinforced with statutory backing.

You will be pleased to hear that my officials are working on the preparation of the necessary draft changes to the legislation to bring election posters under planning control. Any legislative bar on the display of election posters on the route of the Giro d'Italia during the event would, of course, still rely on a compliant attitude of all the political parties to achieve the desired result of a poster-free route for the race.

My officials will be consulting with all of the Councils along the route of the race so that they can contribute to this process and play their part if required.

I hope you find this information helpful.

Yours sincerely

**MARK H DURKAN MLA**  
**Minister of the Environment**