

Jim Anderton

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8 OCT 2008

Jonathan Gillard
Noise Off
P O Box 7818
Sydenham
Christchurch

Dear Jonathan Gillard

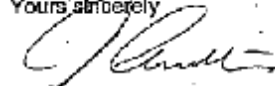
Thank you for your letter of 16 September seeking to know the Progressive Party policy on motor vehicle noise emissions.

We endorse the Labour Progressive coalition position on this issue. While we have all been irritated by noisy vehicles, these are mainly vehicles, research suggests, which exceed both the 90 and 95 decibel levels and these can already be the subjects of prosecution in appropriate cases.

I note your view that the maximum decibel level should be reduced to 90 for all vehicles, and not just those registered after 1 June 2006. That seems to me, however, to be unreasonable. Those who purchased vehicles in good faith prior to that date and within the terms of the existing law, should not be required to undertake what might be expensive modifications to their vehicles to keep the level below 90. And while it is true that Australia has a lower limit for all vehicles other countries have limits which are higher (Germany 98 I am advised) so views obviously differ as to what is or is not an acceptable noise level.

I keep an open mind on this matter however, and if you would like to discuss it further I would be happy to meet with you accordingly. You can ring my Wigram electorate office on 3655459 if you would like an appointment, and arrange for this with my electorate secretary Alan Hayward.

Yours sincerely



Jim Anderton
M P for Wigram and Leader of the Progressive Party

