Dear Mrs Hamilton,

Thank you for contacting us. I regret that Rod Liddle's brief comments on this incident distressed you.

Mr Liddle's purpose was not to condone tragedies such as your husband's death but to ridicule Mr Grayling by heavy irony. That the transport secretary, of all people, should open a car door and hit a cyclist seems to be quite extraordinarily careless.

Mr Liddle is a commentator on human foibles. Sometimes his humour offends, and I am sorry that on this occasion it has upset you.

Yours sincerely,

Bob Tyrer

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