

Response to Regulation 28 Report – Harold James Davies

Following receipt of a Regulation 28 report from HM Assistant Coroner Maria Mulrennan on the 13th May 2016 after the inquest into the death of Harold James Davies held on the 25th April 2016, I offer the following information.

I called together representatives of Highway England and Nottinghamshire County Council to attend a meeting at Nottinghamshire Police Lakeside Court building on the 2nd June 2016.

Those present were,

██████████, Road Casualty Reduction Manager, Nottinghamshire Police (Chair) (HD)

██████████, Team Manager Accident Investigation of Nottinghamshire County Council. (GC)

██████████, Asset Manager, Highways England. (RK)

██████████, Senior Insurance Assistant, AOne +. (GC)

Ian Malkin, Highways England. (IM)

Each partner had previously received a copy of the report from HD and the report was then discussed at length. RK reported that as stated at the inquest an accident remedial scheme had been designed by AOne + and RK was now trying to obtain the necessary funding from Highways England to get it put into the work programme. The scheme did not meet the criteria for funding from the 'Minor Safety Improvement Fund so RK had escalated the funding request to senior manager level.

Partners then looked in detail at the proposed remedial scheme which consisted of interactive signs on the approach to the junction, central area marked out clearer and improved signage.

GC had investigated Station Road which was the County Council road that approached the junction (the junction being on the A46 which is the responsibility of Highways England) and had decided there was no merit in changing the speed limit on this road. GC's separate report detailing this decision is attached. All partners agreed with this decision as the speed of entry into the junction at all three fatal collisions was extremely slow if not stationary.

RK said that she would do everything she could to secure the funding for the scheme so that it could be on the ground at the location asap but this could take some time.

The meeting was then adjourned to give RK time to speak to the senior managers at Highways England to secure the funding that was needed.

On the 23rd June 2016 HD received an email from RK which stated the following,

Since we met on 2nd June I have been liaising with colleagues to identify funding for the junction improvements described under 5.2 of the report. As discussed, the funding mechanisms under the Roads Investment Strategy have changed and we no longer have Local

Network Management Schemes (LNMS) funding. The new funding is called Designated Funds and we are currently exploring various avenues to gain the approval we require to deliver the scheme at the junction of Station Road. The matter has been escalated to Senior Managers and discussed at the various finance meetings. I will continue to press this matter, if our Investment Decision Committee (IDC) do sign off the required funds we will aim to deliver the scheme within the next year.

We sent a crew out on the 4th June to clear the vegetation around the Station Road junction to improve the visibility in all directions.

Summary

A meeting has taken place with all highway representatives pertinent to this case and the report has been fully discussed. All parties agree that the best way forward to prevent further deaths which was the purpose of the Regulation 28 report issued by HM Coroner_ would be for the accident remedial scheme designed by AOne + to be implemented by the Highways Agency.

As soon as funds are identified the scheme will go ahead and hopefully this will be within the next year.

