


Mrs Heidi Connor
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18 March 2020

Dear Mrs Connor

Regulation 28 Report following the M4 Minibus Inquest

Thank you for your letter dated 3 March 2020, regarding Highways England's response to the Regulation 28 report.

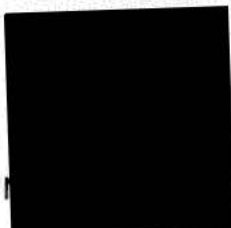
Further to the matters of concern raised, I would like to add the following information to our formal response;

1. The oversight role would sit with the Department for Transport (DfT) who use the Office of Road and Rail (ORR) to monitor Highways England.

Under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 made by parliament, Highways England, as the highway authority have the statutory powers to put prohibitions and restrictions in place on the strategic road network in England. Under the Act, Temporary Traffic Regulation Orders for events, such as a temporary closure of a hard shoulder, can remain in force for up to 18 months from the date on which the Order comes into force. There is nothing in statute to say that the Order must have a specific end date as long as the Order does not exceed a period of 18 months.

2. In terms of our monitoring by the ORR on behalf of DfT, there is currently no incentive to reduce the duration of hard shoulder closures or any penalty for prolonging hard shoulder closures.

Your sincerely



Regional Director, South East