

Updated letter

Dr Sean Cummings  
HM Assistant Coroner for Milton Keynes

By email

24 January 2024

Dear Dr Cummings

**Regulation 28 Report - Fatal Road Crash, A5 Little Brickhill, 16 November 2023**

Thank you for contacting me regarding the tragic events of 16 November 2023. We have been asked to respond to the Regulation 28 Report (Report to prevent future deaths) on 21 December 2023 with a deadline set of 14 February 2024. This letter sets out our position in respect of:

- Confirmation of any concerns raised with MKCC regarding this junction.
- Copies of the concerns raised.
- MKCC's responses to these concerns.

MKCC has received no formal complaints in relation this junction nor related signage that we have been able to establish from examination of our customer service records. We have had some reports using our on-line forms and a note of those is set out in the annex to this letter.

The slip road, its junction with the local road, and the signage and road markings at the end of the slip road are part of the National Highways asset and they are therefore the responsible highway authority.

MKCC has no powers to action any improvements to the junction mouth, the signage located there, or any road markings to prevent unauthorised entry. MKCC is highway authority for the local road that the A5 on and off slips connect to.

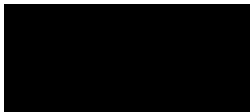
Comments about the absence of highway lighting in the vicinity are noted, and this would be MKCC's responsibility on the connecting local road and National Highway's on the slip road, although it is a rural location and there is no nearby power supply at present.

City highways officials visited the site on 20 November after the fatal incident with Thames Valley Police (TVP). TVP then convened a video call with MKCC and National Highways on 21 November and National Highways took subsequent actions on their junction. We would

agree with National Highways that the signage appeared adequate to regulations, although we would suggest that the National Highways no-entry signage at the slip road junction may benefit from illumination (although the Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions guidance does not *require* this).

We will, of course, co-operate with any actions arising from the inquest that are in our power.

Yours sincerely

  
Chief Executive

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Annex

### **'Report-Its' Received**

We have looked back over 2023 using the search terms 'A5 Slip Road' and we have had some 'Report-Its' made. There are other 'Report-Its' relating to potholes and flooding in the vicinity.

We received a 'Report-It' made on 28 May 2023. The records show that in this case a highways inspector visited the location on 2 June 2023 and made the following note 'Inspection on 02/06/23 enough signage and road marking on road saying no entry. No safety defects found all below investigatory levels'. This reflects his remit to consider the condition of those assets in respect of safety. A standardised response was sent to the customer.

We have another 'Report-It' made on 21 November 2023 which was made following the incident. The same inspector visited the site again and again found no immediate safety hazard based on condition (of the asset) and highlighted to the resident on 13 January 2024 that we have investigated and intend to review the situation at a later date as part of our planned work programme. A standardised response was sent to the customer.

If at any time we identify an urgent safety hazard on a road where National Highways has responsibility for doing any works we would engage with them.