

From:WG

Sent: 04 July 2011 17:26

To: enquirer

Subject: RE: A465 Trunk Road issues- Llangua

Thank you for your further email of 29th June referring to the origin of the data separately confirmed his records to our South Wales Trunk Road Agency (SWTRA) which as you refer concur with your own records that there is no police record for the collision on 7th January 2011 and the accident on 19th June was damage only. The records do however confirm a personal injury accident involving a single motorcycle which occurred on 14th June 2011.

Based on the information we now have it is likely that the criteria for a cluster site will be met in the period 1 July 08 - 30 June 11. There is upward of a 6 month delay in receipt of official recorded personal injury collisions from the Police. This means that data up to the month of June is usually received around January of the following year. As our capital programme bidding process occurs in the autumn before the following financial year, this means that the bid for this year's Local Safety Scheme programme was based on the date range July 06 – June 09. Whilst the Local Safety Scheme cluster site criteria is likely to be met, we are a few years away from being able to bid for any study or works at Llangua as a Local Safety Scheme using the usual approach. We do however have scope to use engineering judgement and a flexible approach to consider safety issues that we become aware of by other means.

Referring to your email of 23rd June, I can confirm that a road safety audit (stage 4) 12 month monitoring report for the community scheme was undertaken in February this year. This considered the twelve month post-completion period from November 2009- October 2010. It identified one recorded personal injury accident in the vicinity of the scheme in August 2010 though concluded that no pattern or trend could be established.

However, you will be pleased to know that at the same time a separate Road Safety Appraisal, commissioned by SWTRA, was undertaken. This focussed on concerns at the camber. This appraisal included a detailed site visit during which the presence of an adverse camber was noted. The appraisal recommended a topographical survey be undertaken to verify this and inform any resulting scheme. I can confirm that funding has already been allocated to undertake this survey in 2011/12 through our preliminary investigations budget.

As I refer, flexibility exists for us to consider safety issues that we become aware of by other means. In light of the most recent personal injury accident information I have agreed with SWTRA that should a scheme be identified from the topographical survey, this should be taken forward and considered for funding in 2012/13 alongside other local safety schemes already identified through the usual approach.

It should be emphasised that works are by no means guaranteed. The process will involve a robust assessment of all competing local safety schemes and allocation of a scheme prioritisation score. Schemes will then be ranked on an all Wales basis and implemented subject to the availability of funding.

I trust your will find this information helpful.

Regards,

From: enquirer
Sent: 29 June 2011 19:47
To: WG
Subject: Re: A465 Trunk Road issues- Llangua

Thank you for your reply. I'm grateful for your consideration.

I was present shortly after the accident on 7th Jan. My neighbour was first on the scene. There is no police record for this incident but I am currently professing an insurance claim for the damage caused.

I was first on the scene for the accident on 14th Jun, hence my detailed description. The police log for this incident shows a personal injury, with the involved party being taken to hospital with chest injuries.

My Neighbour was first on the scene for the incident on 19th Jun. I was away at the time but the damaged vehicle was on my property when I returned the following day.

I emailed _____ to check the content of the police log and our records match for these three incidents.

Regards

On 29 Jun 2011, at 09:29 - WGwrote:

Thank you for your email on your concerns at Llangua, the details of which are being considered. I will respond to you more fully as soon as possible.

In the meantime however it would be helpful if you could advise the source of the accident data you have provided and the status of it? You'll be aware that there were anomalies between previous data you provided and the official records held by Gwent police and I would be interested to know how the information has been obtained.

Regards,

From:enquirer]
Sent: 23 June 2011 22:54

To: WG

Subject: RE: A465 Trunk Road issues- Llangua

I hope you're well.

I refer to your email, below, and to our previous email correspondence on the subject of the safety of the A465 at Llangua.

Your email of 1st February surprised me, as I cannot understand how anyone who has taken the time to either drive or look at the section of the road in question could deny that the camber on the road fails to meet required standards. It is visible to the naked eye and is clearly obvious when watching vehicles negotiating the bend.

You may or may not be aware that there have been three accidents at the site this year so far. One occurred on 7th January and the vehicle slid through my fence. Two further incidents have occurred at the site recently.

On 14th June 2011 (police log 526 of that date), a motorcyclist lost control of his bike on the corner, sliding at least 60 metres along the road towards Hereford from Abergavenny. The bike, having further damaged my fence, ended up on the opposite side of the road against the kerb and the motorcyclist ended up in the gully between my house and the road. When I reached him, the rider was lying on his side in the foetal position and his eyes, although open, were glazed over. It took paramedics and police two hours to stabilise his condition and lift him out of the gully to take him to Neville Hall Hospital, where he was placed in the Intensive Care Unit.

The second, on 19th June 2011, involved a driver who lost control of his car on the same bend. His vehicle hit the kerb on the other side of the road, flipped and came to rest on its roof in the hedge. My neighbour smashed the rear window of the car in order to free the driver.

I am aware of the correspondence from the Community Council to which you refer. It is clear from your email and from my conversations with members of the Community Council that they too see that there is an adverse camber on the bend. It is interesting that in your summary of the site visit, you do not specifically state that the visit found no adverse camber.

Who is monitoring the success of the measures taken in the scheme designed to reduce the chances of vehicles leaving the carriageway and hitting the fence at Llangua? What is their current view of the success of the measures? When is the mandatory road safety audit on the community scheme, scheduled for this year, to be undertaken?

In your email dated 11/10/2010, you state the criteria for a cluster site as being 4 personal injury accidents in 3 years in 100m in order for it to be given consideration as a Local Safety Scheme. You pointed out that only 3 of the collisions I had reported were personal injury incidents. By my reckoning, with the incident described above on 14th June 2011, the 100m section of road in question has now been the site of 4 personal injury accidents in 3 years:

24th August 2008 – police log 251 of 240808 – motorcyclist sustained a broken femur

17th May 2009 – police reference 00284/09 – driver sustained injuries categorized as “serious”

20th March 2010 – formal injury RTC reference no 00568/10 – driver sustained “slight” injuries

14th June 2011 – police log 526 of 140611 – motorcyclist sustained injuries I imagine will be categorized as “serious”

Does this mean the site now meets the criteria for consideration as a Local Safety Cluster Scheme Site? If so, what does this mean for the site?

I would be very grateful for your attention in this matter.

Regards

From: WG

Sent: 01 February 2011 18:36

To: enquirer

Subject: A465 Trunk Road issues- Llangua,

I refer to my previous email of 20th December and apologise for the delay in responding on the camber issue. This was due to the extended Christmas and New Year holiday and reprioritisation of workload following the inclement weather which affected our network.

I can confirm that a Route Steward at SWTRA has now had an opportunity to undertake further investigations by driving the route at the National Speed Limit to determine whether any adverse camber problems at this location could be detected. As I have been advised that he was unable to detect any issue, and as the site does not meet the criteria for consideration as a local safety scheme cluster site, I am unable to justify undertaking any topographical survey to investigate this matter further.

SWTRA have also considered previous correspondence received by the Community Council. You may be interested to know that the suggestion of an adverse camber was identified by the Council and a request was made for a ‘flashing electronic sign’. A site visit was undertaken along with a review of the personal injury collision history for the most recent 5 years (2003-08) which identified only one collision involving a motorcyclist who lost control of his motorcycle. In considering the collision data and observations on site in the way vehicles approached the village, SWTRA considered that it would be appropriate to provide some traffic calming measures in order to reduce speed on the approach to the village, thereby reducing the chance of a vehicle leaving the carriageway and hitting the fence adjacent to Llangua Terrace. The request for a flashing electronic sign was not taken forward as our policy is that they should only be used on a trunk road if any other form of traffic calming is not successful. The Community Council was informed that this was the case and that the scheme, which consisted of a gateway of signs and SLOW/ARAF red screed areas, was to be progressed. The Community Council have been advised that the scheme will be monitored to determine its success and a mandatory

road safety audit on the community scheme will be undertaken this year. SWTRA will raise the ongoing concern as part of the brief.

I am sorry I cannot be more helpful but hope you will find the response of interest.

Regards,

From: WG

Sent: 22 April 2016 15:32

To: [enquirer](#)

Subject: RE: A465 Llangua

Many thanks for your email and apologies for the delay in responding. Yes I recall our meeting, and can confirm that bids were submitted in two separate programmes – for a warning sign scheme and for a realignment/camber improvement scheme. Reflective markers were installed shortly after our meeting. Unfortunately, neither of the two larger schemes have received funding to date and they remain on the list for future bids.

We have had a couple of restructures since we last spoke, and () now covers scheme delivery in the Llangua area for Welsh Government, whilst represents SWTRA. We also now have a separate planning team who cover the bids and prioritisation process. I have forwarded your email below to them along with a background note in order to raise the profile of this issue. Meanwhile, has highlighted the concerns under a recent speed limit review to ensure they remain priority. He will be able to advise you if/when funding becomes available.

Kind regards,

From: enquirer

Sent: 10 April 2016 13:07

To: WG

Subject: RE: A465 Llangua

I hope you're all well and indeed that you're still the right people to talk to about the A465 where it passes through Llangua between Abergavenny and Hereford.

It's been several years since we were in contact. I hope you'll recall our meeting at my property on the A465, referenced in the email trail below, in which we discussed the status of this section of road.

When we last spoke I recall you advised that this section of the road had been listed as an accident black spot and was due for consideration for budget to be assigned to carry out improvements. I'm wondering what point in those proceedings discussions have reached.

This section of road continues to cause concern and stress for the residents and it would be good to know of any plans.

Regards

From: WG
Sent: 17 November 2011 16:29
To: enquirer
Subject: RE: A465 Llangua

Just contacting you regarding a couple of points prior to our meeting next week:

With reference to your query below regarding the decision-making process: if the topographic survey identifies a possible improvement scheme, a bid for this scheme will be put forward by SWTRA for the forthcoming financial year. The scheme will then be compared with other schemes across the Welsh trunk road network by a panel which will include Angela and myself. The scheme will be prioritised against the other schemes competing for funding from Welsh Government transport budgets. deals with network management, and is attending the meeting to provide input due to his knowledge and experience of the local network, but will not have an input into the capital decision-making process. With regard to the topographical report, it is close to finalisation, although if you wish to raise any further issues on Monday, the timing would be ideal as if appropriate, these can be reviewed in conjunction with the report.

Turning to the meeting, as this will take place adjacent to a live carriageway, for safety reasons it would be prudent to keep numbers to a minimum. I would therefore request that if possible, the residents' issues/comments be collated and presented by a small number of representatives. With this in mind, I'd be grateful if you could advise the anticipated numbers so that we can provide you with high visibility jackets to wear whilst adjacent to the carriageway. I will be away from the office tomorrow, so please copy in , who will pick up the e-mail.

Look forward to meeting you next Monday,

Regards,

From: enquirer
Sent: 11 November 2011 06:42
To: WG
Subject: RE: A465 Llangua

Thank you for your email. I'm really pleased that you've been able to find a convenient date to visit us.

Could you please let me know what input you, and have into the decision-making process in which bids and schemes are considered, designed and approved?

Might you be in a position to tell us about the interpretation of the topographical survey, when you visit?

We look forward to seeing you on the 21st.

Regards

From: WG
Sent: 09 November 2011 18:01
To: enquirer
Subject: A465 Llangua

Hello,

Further to my previous e-mail, I would like to suggest that we meet on Monday 21st November at 11:00 am at Llangua. I will travel up with both from SWTRA. We intend to park in the lay-by of the county road just to the south of its junction with the A465 (opposite Peak Cottage), and could meet you there. I'd be very grateful if you could confirm whether this date is acceptable (preferably by e-mail as I will be away from the office for the next couple of days).

We look forward to meeting with you and your neighbours.
Regards,

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Thank you for email of 10th October and further email of 15th October.

I can confirm that our South Wales Trunk Road Agency SWTRA are aware of this incident and have issued an order to replace the damaged sign and verge markers. They will also ensure that the damaged sign is removed.

I am pleased to advise that our agent has already appointed a contractor to undertake road stud and road marking works along the Hereford Road which is underway. Unfortunately, there appears to have been a breakdown in communication and the contractor undertook white lining work at the incorrect location on the A465 which, as you refer, was on top of the pine needles. These have since been removed and agents have visited site in the last few days to investigate the condition of the white lining that remains. They are satisfied that the existing line remains in good order and as a result we do not propose to undertake any remedial work to the lining. They will of course continue to monitor the network as part of their wider duties. The centre line studs will be replaced through Llangua as part of this wider road stud and road marking work, with inset studs between Llangua and the Malthouse.

It is likely that the spray marks you refer to may have been as a result of the topographical survey. I am pleased to confirm that this survey has been undertaken and the Agency is expecting the report to be with them by the end of the month. We will then need to be considered in detail. Depending of the findings of the survey a bid to allow development of a scheme will be put forward for 2012/13. At this stage I would not wish to pre-empt the outcome of the survey's findings. However, should an issue be identified scheme options could range from enhanced signing to localised carriageway reprofiling. Options would need to be considered in detail and development of any preferred option considered against other competing schemes and will be subject to the availability of funding.

In respect of the sentence relating to engineering judgement and a flexible approach this includes the scope to considering issues brought to our attention outside the annual assessment of personal injury accidents through our local safety scheme and other planned programmes of work. This has been demonstrated by the commissioning the topographical survey this year to investigate further.

Given recent retirement and staff losses within our organisation interim staffing re-arrangements have been put in place. Helen Lewis is now undertaking the role of route manager for the A465 trunk road. I have copied her in to this response.

I trust that the above information is helpful and addresses the points you raised in your emails.

Regards,

From: enquirer

Sent: 15 October 2011 16:46

To: WG

Subject: FW: A465 Trunk Road issues- Llangua

I'm very glad I wrote to you on the 10th. On the 11th, at approximately midnight, a driver lost control of an articulated refrigerated lorry just on the bend and drove down my fence line. The police log for this incident is 590 of 11/10/2011. I haven't checked it yet with _____ but I hope to speak to one of the attending officers on Monday as I understand the driver did eventually go to hospital for a check up.

I want to let you know that in this incident, several road signs have been destroyed. The line of reflective strips advising motorists of the sharpness of the bend has gone. The metal sign post warning motorists of the presence of a minor junction on the right, previously concreted in, was ripped out of the ground and now lies on my land useless to road users. My fence, which is a further indicator to motorists, is also destroyed but of course I will lodge an insurance claim to repair the damage to my property. I thought you might want to take some action to replace the signage. Please could you let me know whether this is the responsibility of your office and, if not, to whom I should speak? If the sign is not to be replaced (and it is in no condition to be re-erected), I do at least want the debris removed from my property. As it does not belong to me, I cannot ask the builders to remove it.

I have stored on Facebook photographs of the damage to vehicles and property sustained during many of the 17 incidents since Aug 28th 2006. You may wish to take a look. The link is [here](#). I'm not sure if you'll be able to access but if not, please try searching Google or Facebook for "Llangua Road Safety". Reviewing the pictures, it's staggering to me that vehicles can be damaged so badly without loss of human life. We are, I think, on borrowed time for that eventuality.

In reference to my email of 10th Oct (below), I can tell you that, having looked at the white lines in daylight, I can see that they are standard white lines to advise drivers that they shouldn't stop on the road. That makes perfect sense, and will also add to the visibility of the chicane bends. However, pine needles from nearby trees had built

up next to the kerb and, unfortunately, it appears that part of the white line was painted onto the pine needles rather than the tarmac. A road sweeper visited the site after the lorry incident on Tuesday night and swept up the pine needles. Now that the pine needles have been removed, some of the line has been removed too. This reduces the efficiency of the line as a visual marker for the road edge. Whilst I'm on the subject, I'll also tell you that the cat's eyes stuck on to the road on this stretch of road during the last improvement effort have now, largely, come off as drivers drive over them. I have a small pile ready for someone to collect and replace.

Finally, I would be grateful for a response to the questions in my email of 10th October. Although I understand the presence of the white lines, there are several other painted marks and I would still appreciate any information you can provide on my other questions.

Regards

From: enquirer

Sent: 10 October 2011 20:07

To: WG

Subject: RE: A465 Trunk Road issues- Llangua

I am much reassured that the matter of road safety on the A465 at Llangua is now being given serious consideration. I can't thank you enough for your assistance and the information you have provided.

You will be pleased to hear that no further incidents have occurred here since we were last in touch. However, the appearance of several patterns of spray paint and road markings along the road outside my home prompt me to write. I do now have further questions, with which I hope you will be able to help.

What is the purpose of the new road markings? Could you give me any more information about plans for the site at Llangua? Your last email referred your "scope to use engineering judgement and a flexible approach to consider safety issues." I'm really interested in what this might include.

You also mentioned that you have agreed with SWTRA that if a scheme is identified from the topographical survey planned for 2011/12, it should be taken forward and considered for funding in 2012/13 "alongside other local safety schemes already identified through the usual approach." Could you tell me whether or not there is a firm date for the survey yet? What sort of schemes might be identified, in your view?

I would be very grateful for your help in understanding the prospects for this site.

Regards

From: WG

Sent: 04 July 2011 17:26

To: enquirer

Subject: RE: A465 Trunk Road issues- Llangua

Thank you for your further email of 29th June referring to the origin of the data. separately confirmed his records to our South Wales Trunk Road Agency (SWTRA)

which as you refer concur with your own records that there is no police record for the collision on 7th January 2011 and the accident on 19th June was damage only. The records do however confirm a personal injury accident involving a single motorcycle which occurred on 14th June 2011.

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I emailed _____ to check the content of the police log and our records match for these three incidents.

Regards

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Sent: 23 June 2011 22:54
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Does this mean the site now meets the criteria for consideration as a Local Safety Cluster Scheme Site? If so, what does this mean for the site?

I would be very grateful for your attention in this matter.

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From: WG

Sent: 01 February 2011 18:36

To: enquirer

Subject: A465 Trunk Road issues- Llangua

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I am sorry I cannot be more helpful but hope you will find the response of interest.

Regards,

Dear

Further to your enquiry received 10th November 2020, I would advise you that a recent gully cleanse has been undertaken in the vicinity of No. 3 Llangua Terrace.

A further visit is being programmed to investigate the drainage line along the verge to determine if any remedial works are required. I will contact you again shortly after this investigation is completed.

I trust this information is of assistance and thank you for bringing this matter to our attention.

South Wales Trunk Road Agent

Asiant Cefnffyrdd De Cymru

From: Grosmont Community Council [<mailto:grosmontcouncil@hotmail.com>]

Sent: 10 November 2020 20:02

To: enquiries

Subject: A465 Number 3 Llangua Terrace - Highway operation issue

Dear Sirs

I have made a report to Monmouthshire County Council who have redirected me to you as the area in question falls under the South Wales Trunk Road Agency.

The Councillors have reported at the meeting of the Grosmont Fawr Community Council held via Zoom on 9th November 2020 that ground at Number 3 Llangua Terrace in Llangua Monmouthshire has sunk in areas and water has been pouring out beneath the curb. As the ground has sunk the water cannot reach the drain. Passing lorries are causing a hazard as they plough through the trough of water and with a recent frost the area was frozen and the conditions were like a sheet of glass in the early hours of the morning recently.

I will be grateful to receive confirmation of this report and be notified of the next course of action to resolve the problem.

Many thanks

Best wishes

From: enquiries <enquiries@southwales-tra.gov.uk>

Sent: 25 May 2021 15:45

To: enquirer

Subject: E2103170: Incidents at or about Llangua Terrace Monmouthshire - the A465

Good afternoon

Thank you for your email of the 19th May in relation to the above matter. The Highway Authority for this section of road is the Welsh Government. May we therefore request that you redirect your enquiry to the Network Management Division, Department for Economy and Infrastructure of the Welsh Government. The email address is: customerhelp@gov.wales

Kind Regards

South Wales Trunk Road Agent

Asiant Cefnffyrdd De Cymru

From: enquirer

Sent: 19 May 2021 16:00

To: enquiries <enquiries@southwales-tra.gov.uk>

Subject: Incidents at or about Llangua Terrace Monmouthshire - the A465

Dear Sirs

I ask to be provided information about the above location which has been described as a *'real accident black spot. The speed limit is 60mph but it is at a part of the road where it goes from being wide to very narrow in a very short space'*.

I am seeking for the past 5 years:

1. The vehicle related incidents at the location
2. Attendances at the location
3. Reports about the location – compiled by your Authority or reported to your Authority
4. Repairs and works at the location. Online images indicate the presence of cones opposite a residence (3 Llangua Terrace) and a temporary barrier adjacent to it suggesting works in progress or to be completed.
5. Recommendations about the location – speed, safety etc.
6. Details of Local Authority plans/discussions for traffic calming measures, speed reduction schemes and property protection
7. Road cleansing attendance for the past 12 months; when litter, debris, leaves etc., were last cleared
8. Recent reports concerning the collision with number 3 Llangua Terrace

My thanks in anticipation,
