
CORRESPONDENCE

From: [Place Traffic Management \(Place\)](#)

Sent: 07 July 2021 16:38

To: 'clerk@willingtonpc.org.uk'

Subject: Junction at St Michaels Church, Willington - 35966442

Good afternoon Debra Townsend

Thank you for your enquiry regarding the junction at St Michaels Church in Willington. Please accept our apologies for the delay in providing you with a response.

Firstly, we would like to assure you that the safety of Derbyshire's road users remains of paramount importance to the County Council as the local highway authority. Indeed, it is a fundamental remit of all highway authorities to take effective action to reduce the number of people being killed and injured on the roads they are responsible for.

Your concerns are understandable but we are sure you will appreciate that we receive many requests for highway improvement measures from across the county; the sheer number of which far outweighing the resources we have available. Given this unsustainable demand, a system of prioritisation must be employed which includes the interrogation of pertinent data, such as the number and severity of collisions which may have occurred at any requested location. Prioritising our resources in such a way helps to ensure that they are firstly used in locations where there is the greatest need and where most benefits can be achieved in terms of road safety. Our limited funds must therefore be directed to those roads where there is a history of reported injury collisions and where there is a trend in those collisions which allows us to identify a highway improvement scheme which will effectively reduce the number of collisions occurring. This use of identifiable known 'hard' facts and figures is a methodology adopted by highway authorities across the country, and provides a robust basis and justification for the use of funds.

We are very conscious that some residents may perceive this approach as meaning that a death or serious injury has to occur before action will be taken. However, we trust you will appreciate that it would be irresponsible of this Authority to commit funds to a location where few or no injury collisions have occurred, whilst there remain very many other sites with known collision histories, and trends in those collisions, which could be resolved through the introduction of safety measures.

This may appear reactive rather than preventative but we do have a dedicated Road Safety Team where officers work closely with Derbyshire Constabulary on a co-ordinated programme of road safety training, education and publicity campaigns with the objective of raising awareness with the motoring public and reducing road traffic casualties. Unfortunately, there will always remain a minority who will continue to travel at excess or inappropriate speeds – regardless of the conditions or measures in place – and it is this irresponsible few who it is most difficult to legislate for.

The Police database – which records all collisions resulting in personal injury – has been checked and we can advise you that this junction has an excellent safety record, with no recorded injury collisions in the last three years (the standard assessment period).

Given the good road safety record, and for the reasons outlined above, the junction cannot be considered a high priority for the introduction of any additional road safety measures at this time

We appreciate that you may be disappointed with this outcome, but trust you will understand the reasoning behind our decision.

Kind regards

Traffic and Safety Team

Traffic and Safety (Network Planning)
South Derbyshire & Amber Valley (Part)

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The Highways Service is currently receiving a high volume of enquiries. In order to manage our workload with the resources currently available to us, and to maintain our statutory functions, we are prioritising our work according to risk. All other enquiries will be responded to, in as timely a manner as possible. We thank you in anticipation of your cooperation.

