



Mr N Harris
CEO

Date: 23 May 2023

Via Email: Nick.harris@nationalhighways.co.uk

Dear Mr Harris

A38 Trerulefoot to Carkeel safety package

The A38 is a key strategic route for the South East of the county and the delivery of the proposed safety measures between Trerulefoot and Carkeel are an absolute priority for the council and its residents.

Whilst we were pleased to see the outcome of the consultation carried out last year, the Transport Secretary's statement in March, and the subsequent confirmation that the scheme has now moved to delivery within RIS4 rather than RIS3 has been met with major concern both from the council and residents alike. We recognise that there was already significant frustration from local communities and the 'Safe38' campaign that measures had not yet been delivered despite long standing concerns and requests and that the consultation had further identified 2028 as the earliest that any measures would be delivered. Therefore, the subsequent announcement delaying works until 2030 and beyond is unacceptable given the significant impact the A38 has upon both the daily lives of the communities along it and the wider safety of residents and visitors to Cornwall.

Collision data on this stretch of A38 between 01/12/2013 – 30/11/2018 showed that the Killed and Seriously Injured (KSI) injury rate exceeded the national average by 250%. The latest 5-year validated collision history (01/01/2017 – 31/12/2021) shows a further 75 injury collisions (4 fatal, 16 serious and 55 slight), resulting in 6 fatal injuries, 26 serious injuries and 108 slight injuries. When reviewing this data against DfT's statistics for the 'average value of prevention per reported casualty and per reported collision', the costs associated with prevention equate to (circa) £21m, so alongside the sheer devastation left with family and friends after these tragic incidents, there is also an economic case for change. Furthermore, there have been a spate of fatal and serious collisions across Devon and Cornwall in the past few weeks, which have tragically resulted in the deaths of 10 people and has left another 57 seriously injured. Vision Zero South West have issued a plea to urge everyone to use the roads responsibly, respect other road users and leave plenty of time for any journeys that are made.

We note that the A38 safety measures package has been included within the major schemes funding; however, following the consultation the nature of the measures that have been proposed are more a series of minor works including measures such as changes to speed limits, speed cameras, signing and improvements for pedestrian movements. Considering the importance of this scheme for the local community, road safety and Cornwall as a whole, and the need for this to be delivered as soon as possible I am writing to you to ask that you reconsider whether the scheme could now be delivered as a minor works package in the same way that the safety improvements between Bodmin and Dobwalls were delivered.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Connor Donnithorne". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Cllr C Donnithorne
Cabinet Member for Transport
Cornwall Council

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