



Mr. Colm Murphy
Meeting Administrator
Corporate Performance and Change Management
South Dublin County Council
County Hall
Tallaght
Dublin 24

Dáta | Date
13 June 2017

Ár dTag | Our Ref.
TII17-97591

Bhur dTag | Your Ref.
M23S/0517

Re: Motion agreed at May Special Meeting of South Dublin County Council

Dear Mr. Murphy,

Thank you for your letter of 3 May 2017 regarding publicity for diversion routes on the M50. The position in relation to your enquiry is as follows.

TII established the Interagency Incident Coordination Group (IICG) comprising representatives from the four Dublin local authorities, An Garda Síochána, Dublin Fire Brigade, TII and the Motorway Traffic Control Centre in mid-2015 with the objective of improving response to incidents on the M50.

As part of its work, the IICG has developed emergency diversion routes which could be used to reduce traffic congestion in the event of major incidents on the M50. However, it should be noted that these are limited to sections of the M50 where suitable alternative routes exist and are intended to partially relieve but not eliminate the congestion arising from such incidents.

Each of the IICG members has agreed to publicise the emergency diversion routes using their own websites and social media streams.

In line with this, TII has issued a press release which is featured prominently on the home page of its website at www.tii.ie. Working with An Garda Síochána, a press briefing relating to incident management on the M50 was carried out. This exercise included details of the M50 emergency diversion routes such as what the signs mean, when they should be used, and how the public will be informed when diversions are to be put in place.

It must be understood these diversions shall only be used in response to major incidents which are very rare and that during such an event, the diversions would be implemented as part of a co-ordinated multi-agency response by all the IICG member organisations. The diversion routes are not intended to be used by motorists outside of such

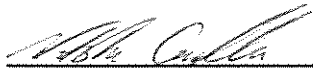
major traffic incidents when the support of additional resources such as radio messages, electronic message signs, adjustments of traffic signals and An Garda Síochána personnel to assist traffic movements would not be present.

In light of the expected very limited frequency of use of diversion routes, the possibility of diversion routes being used as 'rat runs' to avoid M50 traffic, and the danger of overstating the facility that the diversion routes will provide, we feel that the level of media promotion should be similar to that for other arrangements in place for dealing with rare emergency situations, for example, the Major Emergency Management Framework.

We note information relating to the M50 emergency diversion routes would not appear to be available on the South Dublin County Council website at present and suggest that this would be a positive first step in achieving the appropriate level of awareness for this initiative.

I hope that this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Natasha Crudden', written over a horizontal line.

Natasha Crudden

Regulatory & Administration Unit