

Our ref: CRS 734,724
Your ref: HJW.SIB.562661

Second Floor
Woodlands
Manton Lane
Bedford MK41 7LW

Direct Line:

15 March 2016

Dear

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST
TRAFFIC SIGNALS - BECCLES ROAD/SHRUBLANDS WAY, GORLESTON**

Thank you for your letter of 16 February requesting information about the traffic signal operation at the junction of Beccles Road and Shrublands Way, Gorleston. We have completed our search for information and I will respond to each of your questions in turn, as follows:

1. *Could you confirm whether there had been issues raised with regard to the working order of the traffic lights on the day/night of the accident or the preceding day/night?*

I confirm the traffic signals were fully operational.

2. *Could you confirm whether any complaints have been made about the lights in the 12 months leading up to the accident? If so, please can you provide us with details of these complaints?*

We received five notifications about the traffic signals and associated pedestrian crossing facilities in the 12 months prior to the accident, ie between 1 November 2014 and 31 October 2015 as follows:

10 Feb 15

The red man indicator remained permanently on making the pedestrian crossing inoperable. A site visit confirmed a fault on the red lamp on pole 17 causing the pedestrian crossing failure. This was replaced and all operation restored.

6 March 15

A report was received of multiple red lamps not operating resulting in the non-operation of the pedestrian crossing. During the site visit the red lamp on the A phase was replaced returning the crossing to full operation.

22 May 15

The push button unit on pole 12 was found to be hanging off resulting in the pedestrian crossing becoming non-operational. During an initial site visit the green lamps on poles 10 and 13 were replaced and a red lamp on pole 12 was also replaced. Further site visits completed the

necessary repair work to the pole allowing the push button to be reattached, returning the pedestrian crossing to full operation.

18 Sept 15

A report was received that the pedestrian crossing push buttons were not working. During a site visit two red lamps, one red man lamp and one green lamp were replaced and full operation restored.

21 Oct 15

During a site visit the red man lamp on pole 2 was replaced and the green lamp on pole 4 was replaced. Additionally, defective push buttons on poles 2 & 5 were replaced. Full operation was not returned until 23 October.

Could you confirm the working and sequencing of the traffic signals including:

- a) *Whether the lights are sensor controlled and would have been so controlled on the date/time of the accident;*

Yes, the traffic signals are operated under sensor control and I confirm there were no faults detected on the date/time specified.

- b) *The timing of the lights when moving from red through to amber and green and then in reverse.*

We do not hold this information in a manner that can be easily extracted and would be useful to you. The signals are controlled through a series of detector loops set in the road and depending on the weight of traffic and traffic types, can adjust the lighting sequences to minimise delays. What I can confirm is that the signalling system at the time and date indicated was operating correctly and will not have allowed movement through both approaches of the crossroads at the same time.

The time lag between the lights on Beccles Road turning red and the lights of Shrublands Way turning green and vice versa.

We do not hold this information in a manner that can be easily extracted and would be useful to you. The signals are controlled through a series of detector loops set in the road and depending on the weight of traffic and traffic types, can adjust the lighting sequences to minimise delays. However, as stated above, the signals were working correctly at the date and time specified. The traffic signal design does not allow for green signals on Beccles Road and Shrublands Way to be displayed in a way that would allow vehicles to come into conflict unless they failed to obey a red or amber signal.

Yours sincerely

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