

To: "Owen, Alexandra" <Alexandra.Owen@swansea.gov.uk>

From: Idris Francis <idrisfrancis@fightbackwithfacts.com>

Subject: Re: GoSafe Response

7th February 2014

Dear Ms. Owen,

Thank you for your belated reply - nonsense though it largely is.

I will prepare a detailed rebuttal over the next few days, but the plain fact is that the impression given by your report to most readers wildly exaggerates the benefits of cameras far beyond what they could ever achieve. To take only one of the many misleading statements in your reply

"speed is a major contributory factor in about one-third of all road accidents "

I am thoroughly familiar with Stats19 causation data - more so than you are, it seems - and I have to say that I am surprised that you write such a ludicrously misleading statement to me, of all people, given the scale of detail I have already copied to you.

First - by definition, it is **only speed above speed limits that your cameras can address** and it is therefore misleading and devious to use the phrase "speed" in this context. Virtually all, not "one-third" of road accidents involve "speed" to some extent because stationary objects cannot collide. The very few exceptions, where not even 1mph (eg run over in our driveway by reversing vehicle include falling off a bicycle or motorcycle when stationary, falling off a bus platform when the bus has stopped are statistically insignificant.

These are the current figures for the involvement of speeds above limits in accident causation

Slight - about 4%

All - about 5%

SI - about 8%

KSI - about 9%

Fatal - about 14%

Further, these figures include not only "likely" but "possible" involvement.

And also - they include not just "major" contributory factors but less significant factors, so you are being seriously misleading to that respect too.

I attach (again) a copy of Derbyshire Police's causation analysis showing that only 59 of 2,220 injury accidents, or 2.7%, involves speeds above limits

Do you STILL not understand that you and your organisation have a duty not to issue misleading information?

I note also that I copied you the UK Statistics Authority's rejection of the Scottish Partnership's very similar report - yet you claim innocence on the basis of the Advertising Standard Authorities rejection of a complaint, despite the ASA's remit being very differently and narrowly defined - as well as their relevant abilities being less relevant of course.

I will get back to you next week but you can take it as read that your devious and inaccurate defence will get you nowhere. Nor am I much impressed by Dr. Peppin's continuing failure to respond.

Sincerely

Idris Francis

This was their reply

Dear Mr Francis

Thank you for your response. We note your comments.

Yours Sincerely

Alex

Alex Owen

Communications Officer/Rheolwr Cyfathrebu

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