

Press Releases - Countdown to tragedy - 20/03/00

Councillor Eoin Costello is demanding urgent action at Loughlinstown Roundabout. It is situated at the end of the M11. One of the exits leads to Loughlinstown Hospital. Traffic is continuously coming off the motorway at speeds of up to 70mph and straight onto the suburban roundabout.

"There are regular crashes at this roundabout. Last year a truck coming from the M11 mounted the roundabout and ploughed right across the centre of it. It is a miracle that no one was killed. The directional signs on the roundabout are in bits, the remnants of numerous cars hitting the roundabout. There used to be flashing lights saying "SLOW DOWN, ROUNDABOUT AHEAD" but a number of cars smashed into these and they have not been replaced. Traffic lights would make this roundabout much safer"

Cllr Costello wrote to the County Manager last October urging action to prevent a tragedy. The reply stated that no funding is available for the provision of traffic signals at that location.

"This is an extremely busy roundabout. Ambulances are regularly entering and leaving the hospital via this roundabout. Residents from Shankill Village can wait up to 10 minutes before getting onto the roundabout because of the unending stream of traffic heading for Wicklow via the M11. With larger numbers of people moving to live in North Wicklow the situation is only going to get worse and it is inevitable that there will be a serious accident at this roundabout unless traffic lights are installed."