



All Assembly Members

14 December 2015

Dear Assembly Member,

I am writing following an issue raised by a number of Members during Plenary on 8 December regarding the congestion on 3 December caused by Asda Coryton hosting a Coca Cola truck event.

Congestion started to build towards end of the school day, at the beginning of the afternoon peak. An earlier collision involving three vehicles on the A470 at Coryton exacerbated the situation.

Our Trunk Road Agents contacted Asda at 5pm to offer assistance through Variable Message Signing should the event be halted, but were advised that this was not required. All available Traffic Officers attended the incident, staying at the site until 9pm.

We were not formally approached about this event in advance and are not aware of any traffic management planning or consultation being undertaken. Asda had no statutory duty to do so and, even with formal notification, an event of this nature would not have warranted additional planning or resource as traffic flows at the level encountered were not anticipated.

However, Asda has apologised publically for the traffic issues caused by the event and there are clearly lessons to be learnt. My officials will be meeting with the event organisers to discuss our concerns and to suggest more appropriate sites for future events.

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

I have also asked my officials to undertake some further work to identify commercial locations adjacent to critical nodes on the trunk road network and encourage communication in advance of events likely to draw significant crowds.

Edwina Hart