



Janet Finch-Saunders AC/AM

Aelod Cynulliad dros Aberconwy

Assembly Member for Aberconwy



Ken Skates AM
Minister for Economy and Transport
Welsh Government
By Email

3 September 2019
Ref: MJ/JF367

Private and Confidential
Re: Pont Fawr, Llanrwst

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Dear Minister, Ken,

I am writing with regards to concerns that have been raised with me about Pont Fawr, Llanrwst.

As you might be aware, the bridge is one of the main highways across the Conwy River to the West of the Conwy Valley. In addition to enabling access to communities such as Llanrhychwyn, Trefriw, and Dolgarrog, the bridge is considered one of the main routes used by tourists to visit some of Wales' leading attractions, such as Surf Snowdonia, Gwydir Castle and Gardens, Tu Hwnt i'r Bont, Trefriw Woollen Mills, Gwydir Mawr & Bach, and some of the most breathtaking landscapes in Snowdonia National Park. It follows that it cannot be doubted that the crossing has seen an increase in use, and will continue to do so whilst Wales remains a popular holiday destination.

Importantly, the bridge is historic, and is of importance not only as a means of crossing the river, but as an example of work by Indigo Jones, and one of the most iconic locations in Wales. Therefore, the protection and preservation of Pont Fawr is of utmost importance.

Whilst I appreciate that the crossing forms part of the B5106, and as such falls under the remit of the Local Authority, the junction of the road with the A470 is on the bridge. Consequently, I have been pleased to receive Conwy County Borough Council's (CCBC) cooperation in considering whether enhanced signage and road markings on the B5106 would help address the traffic situation. However, according to the latest update on the matter I have received from Mr Geraint Edwards, Head of Environment, Roads, and Facilities, CCBC, 'An attempt has been made to contact NMWTRA officers in relation to the feasibility of introducing an alternative signal controlled solution on the A470, but no answer has been received as yet'.

[Cont...]

Mi wnaff Janet Finch-Saunders cadw unrhyw wybodaeth personol yn gwbl gyfrinachol, ac fel arfer mi fydd rhaid iddi rannu'r wybodaeth 'efo aelodau o staff i'w galluogi nhw i ddellio 'efo'r awdurdodau perthnasol er mwyn eich helpu a'ch cynorthwyo chi. Efallai mi fydd angen i rywun ysgrifennu atoch er mwyn darparu'r wybodaeth ddiweddaraf o bwys. Gadwch wybod i ni os nad oes diddordeb gennych mewn cael eich cysylltu at y diben hwn.

Janet Finch-Saunders will treat in confidence any personal information which you may pass on to her, and she will normally allow her staff to see it, so that they can consult with relevant authorities in order to help and advise you. We may wish to write to you from time to time to keep you informed on issues which you may find of interest. Please let us know if you do not wish to be contacted for this purpose.

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[Cont...]

Given the above, I would be most grateful if you could kindly liaise with CCBC and me so to advise whether it is possible to consider introducing an alternative signal controlled solution on the A470 for Pont Fawr. Please note that this is worthy of consideration as I know for a fact that vehicles reversing off the bridge into the trunk road do hold up traffic, and cause delays daily.

Yours sincerely

Janet Finch-Saunders AM/AC