

From: XXXXXX XXXXXX [mailto:XXXXXX.XXXXXX@bbc.co.uk]
Sent: 20 February 2012 11:54
To: XXXXXX XXXXXX
Subject: RE: Highways Agency Interviews

Hello XXXXXX

I have listened back to the interview and communicated with all of those who were involved in this interview.

Do you mind giving me call on XXXXX XXXXXX so we can have a chat.

Best wishes

XXXXXX XXXXXX

Editor, Late Night programmes at BBC Radio 5 live.

From: XXXXXX XXXXXX [mailto:XXXXXX.XXXXXX@highways.gsi.gov.uk]
Sent: 16 February 2012 09:14
To: XXXXXX XXXXXX
Subject: RE: Highways Agency Interviews

Thanks XXXXXX, I look forward to hearing from you.

From: XXXXXX XXXXXX [mailto:XXXXXX.XXXXXX@bbc.co.uk]
Sent: 15 February 2012 20:09
To: XXXXXX XXXXXX
Subject: FW: Highways Agency Interviews

Hello XXXXXX

A quick e-mail to say that I'm looking into your concerns about the Stephen Nolan interview. I need to speak to the people who were involved on the day. They're not in till the weekend so I'll be back in touch on Monday.

Sorry for the delay but I do need to speak to them first.

Thanks very much

XXXXXX XXXXXX

Editor, Late Night programmes on 5 live (including Stephen Nolan programme)

From: XXXXXX XXXXXX
Sent: 09 February 2012 13:42
To: XXXXXX XXXXXX
Cc: XXXXXX XXXXXX
Subject: RE: Highways Agency Interviews

Thanks XXXXXX

I'll make sure my boss XXXXXX sends you a reply about the problems with breakfast. Problems with the Stephen Nolan show, (not Norton) need to be flagged up to another editor, XXXXXX XXXXXX. I've copied him in to this reply.

XXXXXX

XXXXXX XXXXXX
Broadcast Journalist

BBC Radio 5 live 'Breakfast'

XXXX XXX XXXX / XXXXX XXXXXX

1st Floor + Quay House, MediaCityUK, Salford M50 2QH

bbc.co.uk/5live

SONY BREAKFAST SHOW OF THE YEAR 2011

From: XXXXXX XXXXXX [mailto:XXXXXX.XXXXXX@highways.gsi.gov.uk]

Sent: 06 February 2012 12:03

To: XXXXXX XXXXXX

Cc: XXXXXX XXXXXX

Subject: Highways Agency Interviews

XXXXXX,

Good morning, thanks for the discussions yesterday. They were most helpful. You asked that I email you regarding the chain of events prior to and during the interview with Jon Caldwell yesterday morning (Sunday 05 February).

During the interview, Jon was put in a head-to-head discussion with a member of the public who was clearly upset at being caught up in the severe weather overnight on Saturday evening.

Alarming, there was no prior discussion regarding putting Jon in a head-to-head with the member of the public, either during discussions with XXXXXX XXXXXX (the duty press officer who arranged the interview) or with Jon Caldwell who subsequently conducted the interview.

I think justifiably, Jon is very annoyed at being put in that position without prior warning. It had been agreed that we would provide an update on the state of the roads and also to talk through what had happened overnight.

On a separate note, the Stephen Norton show didn't fare much better I'm afraid. I set that interview up talking to XXXXXX, and was very clear at the outset that a colleague of mine who we had set up to do an interview between 1000 and 10h30 would only be able to talk about operational matters i.e. the state of the roads, what we were expecting and the work we had being doing to keep the overall network running smoothly. In fact, that was the bid they put in and the basis of my decision to participate. I explicitly said that XXXXXX would not be in a position to talk about political issues.

What transpired was a number of questions about funding and comparisons between England and Europe, which are clearly not operational questions. Whilst XXXXXX faired well and answered the questions put to him, it is rather disturbing that on two occasions in 24hrs we've been misled about the context of the interviews.

We rely on the media to help us communicate with road users during severe weather, however the experience of these interviews at the weekend may make it more difficult for us to find interviewees who are willing to participate

in interviews in the future. I would appreciate your comments on the interviews at the weekend because we generally have a close and very good working relationship with 5 Live and consider you to be a valuable stakeholder.

Regards

XXXXXX

XXXXXX XXXXXX, XXXXXX Press and Publicity Officer

Highways Agency | 123 Buckingham Palace Road | London | SW1W 9HA

Tel: +44 (0) XXX XXXX XXXX | **Mobile:** + 44 (0) XXXX XXX XXX

Web: <http://www.highways.gov.uk>

GTN: XXXX XXXX

Safe roads, reliable journeys, informed travellers
Highways Agency, an executive agency of the Department for Transport.

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From: XXXXXX XXXXXX [mailto:XXXXXX.XXXXXX@bbc.co.uk]
Sent: 10 February 2012 19:04
To: XXXXXX XXXXXX
Subject: Re: Highways Agency Interviews

Hello XXXXXX

Thanks for this information. I'm sorry to hear that you weren't happy with Stephen Nolan's questioning etc.

I will speak to XXXXXX about what was said prior to the interview and whether we briefed Stephen etc. I will be back in touch.

Best wishes

XXXXXX

From: XXXXXX XXXXXX
Sent: Thursday, February 09, 2012 01:42 PM
To: XXXXXX XXXXXX <XXXXXX.XXXXXX@highways.gsi.gov.uk>
Cc: XXXXXX XXXXXX
Subject: RE: Highways Agency Interviews

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XXXXXX XXXXXX
Broadcast Journalist
BBC Radio 5 live 'Breakfast'
☎ XXXX XXX XXXX / XXXXX XXXXXX
📍 1st Floor • Quay House, MediaCityUK, Salford M50 2QH
🌐 bbc.co.uk/5live

SONY BREAKFAST SHOW OF THE YEAR 2011

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Subject: Highways Agency Interviews

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XXXXXX XXXXXX, XXXXXX Press and Publicity Officer

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