



People for Proper Policing in North Wales

Six killed in M6 crash horror

Four children and their parents were among seven people killed in a series of crashes which brought chaos to the M6 today Tuesday 21st October 2008

The youngsters and two adults died at the scene when their car, which had been travelling from Birmingham to Llandudno, burst into flames after a collision on the northbound carriageway last night.

A Portuguese lorry driver, aged 46, was arrested on suspicion of causing death by dangerous driving.

The crash happened at around 10.40pm between junctions 16 at Barthomley and 17 for Sandbach.

The busy motorway suffered 12 hours of crash mayhem which continued today. The incidents were:

A man in his 30s died when the white van he was driving hit a bridge parapet on the northbound M6 between junctions 17 and 18 for Chester at around 9pm. The motorway was shut northbound and caused delays of around an hour.

Another stretch between 16 and 17 was shut following the accident which claimed five lives at around 10.40pm. It reopened at around 7.20am

Three lorries collided at around 1am today, leaving a driver in his 30s trapped in his cab between junctions 15 and 16 at Stoke-on-Trent northbound for two hours before he was freed and transferred to University Hospital of North Staffordshire. All lanes were closed and re-opened at around 8am.

Ten miles of tailbacks built up after a van carrying bread and milk travelling north crossed onto the M6 southbound and overturned near Junction 14 for Stafford at around 5am. The motorway was shut southbound at Junction 15 while repair work was carried out.

The PPP comments This devastating loss of a family in a multiple vehicle crash highlights the deterioration in the safety levels on our overcrowded and chaotic roads system. The lack of investment over many years (at least a £15 billion shortfall) and our failed road safety policies and the resultant culture will increase the frequency of such events DESPITE major improvements to vehicles.

BBC radio now has female announcers telling us hourly about the chaos across the nation on our roads, often glibly and without any reference to casualties and costs.