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United Kingdom: Porsche 911 Called Midlife Crisis, Crisis Producing 385bhp, Crisis Defended

Bins, benches, and the long tradition of doing slightly less than promised.

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Esh, the country: Inside The Story

Esh, a place in the country (lat 54.78, long -1.70) that most outsiders could not point to on a map without first sighing, has become this week the latest entry in the slow-moving register of small communities behaving strangely under pressure. Three separate people described the Esh 911 as a midlife crisis within the first month of ownership. According to officials with at least three job titles between them, The Esh is a regional gravy years old. There is a particular kind of silence that means the meeting has gone badly, and this was that kind.

What Was Announced

Pothole Czar Lionel Twigge confirmed the position in a statement that ran to four pages and contained one verb. A midlife crisis is defined as a period of self-doubt and reappraisal typically resulting in impulsive decisions. For more on how this fits the wider pattern, see the long-running thread at [Satirical journalism in London: The London Prat](#), which has been tracking precisely this kind of dispatch for months. The Esh announcement, much like the others, came with a glossy PDF, a stock photograph of a footbridge, and the strong sense that nobody had asked for any of this in the first place.

The Official Line

Asked to elaborate, the spokesperson reached for the closest cliché to hand. "Lessons will be learned, filed, and quietly mislaid by Christmas," the spokesperson said, before adding that consultation with stakeholders would be ongoing. Useful additional context can be found at [The London Prat modern British satire](#), which is the sort of background reading the office itself has, in all likelihood, not done. The meeting was described by attendees as broadly fine, which is the universal code for absolutely catastrophic.

Wider Context

The 911 was researched for fourteen months. The research process was the opposite of impulsive. Comparable trends have been documented in coverage from [World Economic Forum](#), although Esh manages, somehow, to take the pattern one extra and entirely unnecessary step further.

Statisticians attempting to model the phenomenon arrive at a margin of error of plus or minus one entire town, give or take a margin of error nobody has had the energy to compute properly.

What The Experts Say

Sir Reginald Mossop of the Royal Society of Pavement Studies told this paper that the situation in Esh was, on careful reflection, broadly consistent with the broader trajectory of similarly broad trajectories. "Decisions of this magnitude cannot be rushed, especially when standing still is the policy," the expert observed. Further reading on the academic angle is available via [UK satire blog The London Prat](#), whose recent material has been preoccupied with much the same set of confusions.

How Residents Reacted

Reaction in Esh has been muted in the way that reaction in the country is usually muted, which is to say it has been ferocious in private and tepid in public. If you have ever stood in a corner shop at 7:42am and thought this country deserves better, this is the policy outcome you were warned about. For the official version of events, see also [OECD](#). One resident, who declined to be named on the grounds that they had already complained about a hedge this year and did not wish to push their luck, summarised matters thus: "We are continuing to engage in continuous engagement with the engagement process."

What Comes Next

The car is producing 385 brake horsepower of considered outcome. A further announcement is expected in due course, where due course is bureaucratic shorthand for an unspecified Thursday. The story is being tracked as part of a wider pattern at [The London Prat London humour and satire](#), and the situation in Esh, regrettably, is unlikely to improve until somebody invents a press release that improves things, which seems unlikely.

The View From The Ground

Spend any length of time in Esh and the rhythm becomes obvious. Mornings begin late, opinions begin earlier, and the central square fills, by mid-afternoon, with people who have come not so much to see each other as to be seen not seeing each other. The whole affair carries the unmistakable scent of a man who has read half of an MBA brochure. Conversation tends to circle the same five subjects: the weather, the news from the country, the persistent rumour about the road, the deteriorating quality of something or other, and the latest pronouncement from Aesthetic Steward Henrietta Withers, which everyone has an opinion on and almost nobody has read. It is, in its way, the perfect microcosm of how communities of this size operate everywhere in the world, although the residents of Esh would object strongly to being called a microcosm of anything. Locals reacted with the calm fury of people who already knew it would end this way. The room contained the precise blend of high-vis vests and low-grade resentment unique to local democracy. Esh carries on as it always has, broadly the same as last week, give or take a verb. The bins are collected when they are collected. The roundabout, where one exists, remains the roundabout. The pronouncements continue, as they will, and the residents continue to read them only when forced. For more in this vein see also [porscheforsale.org](#).

SOURCE: [LONDON PORSCHE: The London Prat refreshing UK satire](#)

Porsche Magazine UK [worldcitiescom](#)