



13 June 2016

Dear ,

Request for Information – ATISN 10438

I wrote to you on 18 May regarding your request for information.

In your request you asked for a copy of the bid submitted by the Welsh Government under the Trans European Network (TEN-T) “motorways of the sea” project for the A55 including the monies applied for and the outcome of the bid. I can confirm that we hold information relating to your request.

The Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) Regulation is the funding instrument for the three Trans-European Networks of Transport (TEN-T), Energy (TEN-E) and Digital Communications (E-TEN).

The transport element focuses on improving transport infrastructure with an emphasis on cross-border sections and removing bottlenecks but also the deployment of innovative technology to improve the efficiency and sustainability of the Network and promote multimodal transport.

Funding is made available through two work programmes

- The Multi Annual Work Programme focuses on the pre-identified projects of the Core Network and Corridors included in the Annexes to the CEF Regulation.
- The Annual Work Programme (AWP) focuses on projects on the core and comprehensive network.

Projects are selected through a series of calls for funding managed on behalf of the European Commission by the Innovation and Networks Executive Agency. Their [website](#) gives more information about the programme and how it is managed, including the ‘Motorways of the Sea’ strand.

This is a competitive bidding process with projects needing to meet specific criteria and timescales set by Commission, be mature, have a funding package in place and be able to demonstrate they have EU added value. Projects can be submitted by the private or public sector and European Economic Interest Groups. The Department for Transport has to



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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.

approve applications from entities based in the UK, including the devolved administrations, or where the project takes place on UK territory.

Applications for funding are subject to external evaluation by a panel of experts to ensure that they meet the Commission's criteria for the call and are scored in several areas (including maturity, relevance to TEN-T objectives, impact of the project on the network and the environment and the quality of the project). They must score highly in each area to be submitted to the Commission for a decision on funding. All projects submitted are in effect competing against each other, with the projects demonstrating the best fit with the criteria for the call and delivering the most added value to the wider EU transport network being successful.

The Welsh Government submitted a bid relating to improvements to the A55, which is part of the core network, in the first call under CEF for funding for transport projects, which closed in March 2015. The bid was for 1.69 million euros. It was made under Priority 1 of the AWP for projects on the core network. The project would not have satisfied the criteria for the 'Motorways of the Sea' strand.

A copy of the bid is attached.

The Commission announced the outcome of the first call, which was heavily oversubscribed, in July 2015. The Welsh Government bid relating to the A55 improvements was not successful.

If you are dissatisfied with the Welsh Government's handling of your request, you can ask for an internal review within 40 working days of the date of this response. Requests for an internal review should be addressed to the Welsh Government's Freedom of Information Officer at:

Information Rights Unit, Welsh Government, Cathays Park, Cardiff, CF10 3NQ or FreedomOfInformationOfficer@wales.gsi.gov.uk.

Please remember to quote the ATISN reference number above.

You also have the right to complain to the Information Commissioner. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office,

Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

However, please note that the Commissioner will not normally investigate a complaint until it has been through our own internal review process.

Yours sincerely