



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government
Our Ref: ATISN 11207

25th April 2017

Dear ,

Request for Information – reference ATISN 11207

Thank you for your request for information which we received via telephone on 24 March, 2017.

You asked to be provided with the accident figures for the A483 between Newton and Llandovery, for the period 1 January 2016 to 24 March 2017.

We hold some information caught by the request, but we believe it is exempt under section 22 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) and is therefore withheld, as the information is intended for future publication.

The Welsh Government believes that provisional road accident data for 2016 should be exempt from disclosure on the basis that more accurate and complete information will be published in June 2017 in our statistical first release and on the StatsWales website. The information is at present incomplete and unverified and as such we do not know if we hold the data on all accidents for this stretch of road, over the period, at this point time. Police forces and Local Authorities are currently processing and validating the data, and we will begin compiling the data into a usable format in the next month ready for publication.

Publishing the data for your request in its current format could cause damage to the reputation of the Police Forces, Fire Services, Local Authorities and the Welsh Government if the un-validated data were significantly different to the complete and fully quality assured dataset.

Requests on the complete and validated dataset for 2016 will be available at the end of June 2017. Please email stats.transport@wales.gsi.gov.uk to organise the delivery of this data at this time.

Regarding 2017 data - we do not currently hold data relating to road accidents in 2017.

Public interest arguments in favour of withholding



Grŵp Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol
• Health and Social Services Group
Parc Cathays • Cathays Park
Caerdydd • Cardiff • CF10 3NQ

E-bost • E-mail:

Ffôn • Tel:
Ffacs • Fax:

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.

- The intended publication date is in the not too distant future.
- The statistics in question are incomplete and are still undergoing quality assurance. The final published version of the data may be substantially different, making it possible for confusion to arise when comparing the two versions and potentially leading to incorrect conclusions being drawn.
- Disclosure of this information before the final publication date may compromise trust in the accuracy of official information and undermine the Code of Practice for Official Statistics.

Public interest arguments in favour of disclosure

- Awareness of accurate accident figures for all roads is in the public interest in order to allow informed decision making.

Balance of public interest test

On the basis of the above, we conclude that on balance the public interest arguments are in favour of withholding the data at this time. The public interest in this data will be met with the publication of the final verified information in June 2017.

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 email: 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