



26 May 2017

Dear ,

Request for Information – ATISN 11241

I wrote to you on 28 April regarding your request for information. Thank you also for your e-mail correspondence of 5 May and 15 May, in which you clarified your request. Please accept our apologies for the delay in providing you with this response.

In relation to the 50mph limit on the M4 at 09.57 on 24 February, 2017, you asked for:

1. The MIDAS records of activation and deactivation of the system on each of the Eastbound Carriageway gantries between Junctions 28 and 26 of the M4 between 09:45:00 and 10:05:00 on 24 February 2017.
2. The traffic flow data in each of the three lanes between 09:45:00 and 10:05:00 on 24 February 2017 which explains the reason for the activation of the reduced speed limit at around 09:54:00.
3. Copies of any post implementation reviews/investigations/reports that have been made since the installation of the system in 2011 to demonstrate that the use of the Variable Speed Limit and associated cameras has reduced congestion and accidents along that section of the M4 and whether any adjustments have been made to the Controlled Motorway algorithm since the system was installed.
4. Photographic evidence showing the time when the reduced speed signs were activated along with photographs that show the status of the overhead signs on the 3 gantries leading up to Junction 26 at the time of the alleged offence.

I confirm we hold some information captured by your request. The information you have requested for your first two questions is enclosed with this letter. We do not hold any information captured by your third and fourth questions.

With regards to the third question, we have not yet undertaken any formal reviews since the implementation of the enforcement system in 2016. We anticipate undertaking one once a full 12 months of data has been completed and will commence in Autumn 2017.

For question 4, we do not collect or hold photographic evidence of when the reduced speed limits are activated and are not required to do so. The cameras are part of a



E&I FOI Team
Welsh Government
Treforest - QED Centre
Main Avenue
Treforest Industrial
Estate
Ponty pridd
CF37 5YR

EconomyandInfrastructureFOI@wales.gsi.gov.uk
www.gov.wales

speed enforcement system which has the necessary Home Office Type Approval (HOTA) which allows its use for enforcement purposes. There are built-in safeguards which prevent the camera from activating if there is a technical fault or any question of an incorrect display being set. The system is designed to ensure it will only capture an offence when the equipment is working correctly. This is a requirement of the HOTA.

Home Office Type Approval means that this enforcement system is to evidential standard. The “enforceable aspect set” shown in the picture you provided is the evidence of the gantry having been displaying the signals at the time in question.

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