



13 March 2018

Dear ,

Request for Information – ATISN 12077

I wrote to you on 20 February regarding your request for information. You asked for the following information relating to layby closures to facilitate wind turbine lorries in 2017:

1. The number of laybys that were closed in total.
2. Days in total the laybys were closed to the motoring public.
3. The total amount of revenue obtained from the firms involved.
4. Did the net or gross revenue via tax specifically from motorists and haulage firms get paid back to UK Central Government?
5. The total cost to Welsh Government in notifying the public via newspapers etc., and closing/reopening the laybys with cones, signs etc.?

I can confirm that we hold some information relating to your request. The Welsh Government has responsibility for managing, maintaining and improving motorways and trunk roads in Wales. This is achieved via the South Wales Trunk Road Agent (SWTRA) and North and Mid Wales Trunk Road Agency (NMWTRA). In response to your questions I can advise as below.

For North and Mid Wales, 5 laybys were closed for 97 days in total. For South Wales, layby closure records relating to this matter are not kept as a matter of course. To obtain accurate and meaningful figures it would involve considerable research. This would entail interrogation of hundreds of records contained within weekly roadwork reports for an entire year in order to extract any information relating to this. The Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004 allow me to refuse to deal with requests where it will take more than 24 working hours of time to determine whether we hold the information and to thereafter locate, retrieve and extract it. Even at a conservative estimate the time and resources it will take to locate, retrieve and extract the information noted above will significantly exceed 24 hours. I have therefore decided not to process that part of your request.

In relation to question 3, I can confirm that no revenue has been obtained from the firms involved therefore we do not hold any information for question 4. The total cost to Welsh Government for notifying the public regarding layby closures is £25557.47, however this



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cost relates to any abnormal load movement and are valid for 18 months. We are unable to specify for layby closures specifically to facilitate wind turbine lorry movements only.

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