



19 July 2019

Dear ,

Request for Information – ATISN 13251

I wrote to you on 28 June regarding your request for information. You quoted the following from the BBC website regarding the 50 mph speed limit on the M4 at Newport –

‘A Welsh Government spokesman said nitrogen dioxide levels were above legal limits and "must be reduced". "It was established that a 50mph speed threshold alone was the measure that would achieve compliance in the shortest time possible," he said.’

You asked for:

1. A copy of the data on which the first statement was based relating to the M4 at Newport, including the date and location of its capture.
2. Scientific evidence to support the second statement.

I confirm that we do hold other information captured by your request. .

1. Information regarding the background to the work undertaken in respect of NO2 levels exceeding the limit values set out in the EU Ambient Air Quality Directive (2008/50/EC) and the Air Quality Standards (Wales) Regulations 2010 are detailed within the Welsh Government supplemental plan to the UK plan for tackling roadside nitrogen dioxide concentrations 2017, which can be viewed at <https://gweddiill.gov.wales/docs/desh/policy/181129-final-supplemental-air-quality-plan-en.pdf>.

The section of the plan entitled ‘Local Solutions on Welsh Government Managed Road Networks’ details the work undertaken in respect of dealing with exceedances of legal limits for NO2 have identified at 5 locations on the motorway and trunk road network in Wales, including the M4 between Junctions 25 and 26 at Newport (South Wales Zone).

2. The section of the supplemental plan entitled ‘Local Solutions on Welsh Government Managed Road Networks’ details the investigations and modelling undertaken using



BUDDSODDWYR | **INVESTORS**
MEWN POBL | **IN PEOPLE**

Llywodraeth Cymru /
Welsh Government
Parc Cathays / Cathays
Park
CF10 3NQ

FOI.EconomyandInfrastructure@gov.wales

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 approach set out in the Welsh Transport Appraisal Guidance (WelTAG) to identify measures that have the greatest potential to achieve compliance with the Directive and Regulations in the shortest possible time at each of the 5 locations. Links to the Reports in respect of the WelTAG appraisals in respect of the M4 between Junctions 25 and 26 at Newport are included below:

M4 Junction 25 to Junction 26 WelTAG Stage 1:

<https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/consultations/2018-04/180425-no2-weltag-stage-1-m4-j25-26-newport-en.pdf>

M4 Junction 25 to Junction 26 WelTAG Stage 2:

<https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/consultations/2018-04/180425-no2-weltag-stage-2-m4-j25-26-newport-en.pdf>

M4 Junction 25 to Junction 26 WelTAG Stage 3:

https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/consultations/2018-09/m4-newport-j25-to-j26-weltag-stage-three-report_1.pdf

WelTAG Stage 1 and 2 Effectiveness Review:

<https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/consultations/2018-04/180425-no2-effectiveness-review-report-en.pdf>

WelTAG Stage 1 and 2 Impacts Assessment Report:

<https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/consultations/2018-04/180425-no2-weltag-impact-assessment-report-en.pdf>

M4 Junction 41 to Junction 42 WelTAG Stage 3:

https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/consultations/2018-09/m4-port-talbot-j41-to-j42-weltag-stage-three-report_1.pdf

WelTAG Stage 3 Impacts Assessment Report:

https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/consultations/2018-09/weltag-stage-three-impact-assessment-report_1.pdf

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