

Our ref: 767452

6 December 2018

Motorway Tolls

Thank you for your email of 25 September 2018, which has been dealt with under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Please accept my apologies for the delay in responding.

Your request stated “*Since inception what has been the total amounts evaded by foreign drivers/vehicle in the above category.*”

There are two locations on the motorway network in England where tolls are payable, the Severn River Crossing and the M6 Toll Road.

With regard to Severn River Crossing, penalty charges are issued where motorists evade the tolls. However, we are not required to provide details of charges paid, for the same reason set out in our previous response to you, relating to Dartford Crossing. Under section 36(2)(C) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, we are not required to provide this information due to it being prejudicial to the effective conduct of public affairs. The disclosure of the total amount owed by drivers of overseas registered vehicles could prejudice the effective conduct of public affairs. We are also of the view that the exemption in section 31(1) (d) is engaged, as releasing this information could prejudice our ability to collect the road user charge and encourage drivers of non-UK vehicles to purposely avoid payment of the charge.

The M6 Toll Road is privately operated; the contractors responsible are not required to provide such information to Highways England, therefore we do not hold data in that respect.

In keeping with the spirit and effect of the legislation, all information is assumed to be releasable to the public unless exempt. We may therefore be publishing the information you requested, together with any related information that will provide a key to its wider context, via the [Gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk) website.

If you are unhappy with the way we have handled your request, you may ask for an internal review within 2 months of the date of this response for Freedom of Information requests and within 40 days for Environmental Information Regulations requests. Our internal review process is available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/highways-england/about/complaints-procedure>

If you require a print copy of this letter, please phone the Information Line on 0300 123 5000; or e-mail info@highwaysengland.co.uk. You should contact me if you wish to complain.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact me. Please remember to quote reference number CRS 767452 in any future communications.

Yours sincerely