

Our ref: 714554

Your ref:

via email:

[REDACTED]  
Highways Agency  
Woodlands  
Manton Lane  
Bedford  
MK41 7LW

Direct Line: [REDACTED]

6 January 2015

Dear Miss [REDACTED]

## FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

Thank you for your e-mail Freedom of Information request regarding maintenance spend on the M6 motorway. You requested:

1. A breakdown of the amount spent (expenditure) by the Highways Agency on planned, preventative maintenance of the M6 Motorway, also including cyclical maintenance.
2. A breakdown of the amount spent (expenditure) by the Highways Agency on unplanned, reactive maintenance of the M6 Motorway.

You further requested that the information excluded the M6 toll road and be split into:

- i. Counties (which the M6 runs through)
- ii. In a time frame of quarters (3 month periods) 2009 – 2014.

Unfortunately, we are unable to provide the full information as you have requested. The Highways Agency's maintenance contracts are structured so that Service Providers are paid a 'lump sum' for a wide range of general maintenance duties, including general repairs to the road surface, central barriers and fencing, sweeping and cleaning duties, salting. These activities are performed on both a routine and ad-hoc basis to meet contractual requirements. Payment for these activities is made as per the contract and, by its very nature, is not able to be disaggregated to any particular route.

In addition, the Agency and Service Providers progress the delivery of specific repairs and renewals projects outside of the routine maintenance activities – these are both planned and unplanned depending on the particular circumstances. Analysis of the Agency's financial system has identified the following expenditure against schemes

which have identified the M6 as the predominant route on which the work was carried out:

2009-10	£143.2m
2010-11	£43.5m
2011-12	£35.9m
2012-13	£28.3m
2013-14	£52.9m

Whilst this expenditure has been extracted from the Agency's audited annual accounts, the specific reference to work on the M6 is not an element which has been part of the audit. We do not gather information on the county on which the work is carried out and we also do not have our quarterly accounts audited and so we are not able to provide this additional information you have requested.

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 our website: <http://www.highways.gov.uk/>

If you are unhappy with the way we have handled your request you may ask for an internal review. Our internal review process is available at <http://www.highways.gov.uk/foiresponses/FOIresponses/8024.aspx>.

If you require a print copy, please phone the Highways Agency Information Line on 0300 123 5000; or e-mail [ha\\_info@highways.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:ha_info@highways.gsi.gov.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 the reference number above in any future communications.

Yours sincerely

Email: [REDACTED]