

Our ref: CRS 732,523  
Your ref:

Second Floor  
Woodlands  
Manton Lane  
Bedford MK41 7LW

Via email

Direct Line:

21 March 2016

Dear

## **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST M1 MOTORWAY JUNCTIONS 9 – 12 NORTHBOUND**

Thank you for your email of 23 February clarifying your request for information about the M1 motorway maintenance policy and repair history. I have dealt with your request under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

I respond to each of your requests in turn as follows:

- 1. A copy of your current road maintenance policy relating to that road. Please send me the full policy, but this should include details of the intended frequency of road safety inspections, how these inspections should be conducted and the maximum time between identification of a defect and repairs being carried out.*

Please find attached at Annex A an extract from our Asset Support Contract Maintenance Requirements Plan (MRP), section 6.0 and at Annex B, our Asset Management and Operational Requirements (AMOR) document, part 9.

These documents set out the requirements to which we must adhere when maintaining all paved areas of the strategic road network in the East of England, including the M1 motorway.

With reference to section 6.3 of the MRP, programme of inspections – paved areas, as of 18 January 2016, the frequency of inspections for motorways has increased from weekly to daily.

- 2. A copy of the road repair history for that road between Junctions 9-12 over the past 12 months. Again, please send me the full road repair history, but this should include:*
  - dates of all safety inspections between 1 October 2015 and 29 November 2015*
  - details of how safety inspections were undertaken (walked or driven, speed of inspection vehicle etc)*
  - details of all carriageway defects identified, with description, date and time*
  - details of how the authority handled these defects, what repairs were undertaken and the time between the identification of each defect and a repair being carried out.*

In accordance with the MRP, our asset support contractor, Amey, carry out daily safety inspections of the M1. Prior to 18 January 2016 these inspections were carried out on a weekly basis.

Please find attached at Annex C, an extract of our records of all safety inspections, defects identified and repair history for the M1 between junctions 9 and 12 for specified period, 1 October 2015 to 29 November inclusive.

Please note that where the location description refers to 'MP', this is the marker post number. The northbound Toddington Service Area is located between marker posts 58/0 and 61/0.

Additionally, in February 2015, we made road surface repairs worth approximately £80,000 to the northbound carriageway in the vicinity of Toddington Service Area. We define this as a patch repair – a small section of carriageway surface that requires repair to restore the carriageway to a serviceable condition. In April 2015, we completed a smaller but similar repair worth approximately £56,000 between marker posts 51/3 and 51/5.

All safety inspections of the M1 are carried out with one driver and one observer present in the vehicle. The vehicle is driven at traffic flow speed at that time so not to cause any danger to other road users. Observations are predominantly carried out from lane 1 which generally moves at the slowest speed, the hard shoulder, refuge areas and overbridges may be used should they need to stop for closer observation.

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:

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

If you require a print copy, please phone the Information Line on 0300 123 5000; or e-mail [info@highwaysengland.co.uk](mailto: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 732,523 in any future communications.

Yours sincerely

Business Management Team Leader  
Network Delivery and Development (East)  
Email: