

Our ref: CRS 744,264
Your ref:

Second Floor
Woodlands
Manton Lane
Bedford MK41 7LW

Direct Line:

Via email

24 November 2016

Dear

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST
M40 MAJOR MAINTENANCE ADWELL TO WHEATLEY**

Thank you for your email of 29 October requesting information about roadworks on the M40 northbound carriageway. We have now completed our search for information.

I have extracted your requests from your email and provide relevant information in response to each as follows:

1. Please supply information on the roadworks

The road surface between Adwell near junction 6 and Wheatley at junction 8 has reached the end of its serviceable life. We are therefore carrying out significant resurfacing work to restore the carriageway surface.

This important work will not only provide users with a better driving experience and smoother ride quality but it will bring further noise reducing benefits to our neighbours.

2. What time are they being conducted?

All work is being carried out overnight between 10pm and 5am Monday to Saturday, weather permitting. However, for the safety of our road workers and drivers, traffic management and a 50mph speed limit restriction enforced by average speed cameras will remain in place 24 hours per day.

We expect all work to be completed by mid-December.

3. *How many people are involved?*

Assuming you mean the number of people working on site, the average number is between 70 and 80. However, this number will vary from night to night depending on the work being carried out.

4. *The cost?*

As the work is not yet complete, we do not yet have a final account. However, the costs are estimated to be £8million.

5. *Details on the staging of the work*

We began preparatory work on 15 August so that we could start the main phase on 8 September.

We started work on the northbound carriageway first, putting traffic management in place during an overnight northbound carriageway closure on 8 September. As work has continued we have needed to occasionally close various slip roads overnight to progress our work safely.

On 28 October, we completed work on the northbound carriageway. On 29 October, we put traffic management in place on the southbound carriageway using a further full overnight carriageway closure. Again, there is a need for us to occasionally close various slip roads overnight to complete work.

6. *Why are cones being left in place unnecessarily?*

No traffic management is left in place unnecessarily. Individual lanes are coned off to allow materials to cool during the day. All our traffic management is designed in accordance with Chapter 8 of the Traffic Signs Manual.

7. *Details on the adequacy of the signage indicating that junctions 7 and 8 would be inaccessible to certain lanes*

All signs comply with the Traffic Signs Regulations and Generation Directions 2016. We believe that signs advising drivers which lane they need to be in in order to access routes into and out of junctions 7 and 8 are clear. Please see Annex A which shows what signs were placed on the northbound carriageway.

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact me. Please remember to quote reference number 744,264 in any future communications.

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 email 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

Yours sincerely

Business Management Team Leader
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Email: