

Our ref: CRS 759,654
Your ref:

Highways England
Second Floor
Woodlands
Manton Lane
Bedford MK41 7LW

Email:

Direct Line:

23 February 2018

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST A47 CLOSURES

I am writing to confirm that we have now completed our search for the information about closures of the A47 that you requested on 12 February and respond as follows:

1. *Since January 2013, how many hours per month have one or both directions of the A47 been closed or diverted due to accidents?*

Please see information in Annex A. Please note that the lane impact duration column is not time stamped so it doesn't necessarily mean the closure was in place all the time.

We can only provide information from 1 January 2013 to 3 September 2016. This is because in September 2016, we moved from one incident management system to another. Because of software issues, we are currently unable to extract relevant data from the new system. We are working to resolve this.

2. *Since January 2013, how many hours per month have one or both directions of the A47 been closed or diverted due to unplanned roadworks?*

We do not hold this information in a database or in a format that provides the information as hours per month.

All emergency or unplanned roadworks that need to be carried out under a road closure and where it is necessary or expedient for a restriction or prohibition to come into force without delay are done under a Temporary Notice made under Section 14(2) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984,. The notices are used for urgent unplanned repairs to the strategic road network, including the A47, because of danger or damage to the road that would put the public at risk or danger. These notices have a maximum duration of 5 days.

We do hold records of notices raised since January 2013, which can be found in Annex B. Please note that whilst notices are raised for a maximum period of 5 days, it does not mean the road was closed for the entire period.

3. *Since January 2013, how many hours per month have one or both directions of the A47 been closed or diverted due to planned roadworks?*

Please see relevant data in Annex C which has been extracted from our project management system for the period 1 January 2013 to 13 August 2017. Our Network Operational Management System was then introduced and relevant information for the period 14 August 2017 to 31 January 2018 extracted from that database can be found at Annex D.

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

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact me. Please remember to quote reference number 759,654 in any future communications.

Yours sincerely

Business Management Team Leader
Operations (East)
Email: