

Our ref: 100956
Your ref:

Highways England
Second Floor
Woodlands
Manton Lane
Bedford MK41 7LW

Email:

Telephone:

20 March 2020

Dear

**Freedom of Information Request
M11 junctions 9 to 8 southbound - accidents**

Thank you for your email of 6 March requesting information about accidents on the M11 between junctions 9 and 8 southbound. You clarified your request on 10 March confirming the period over which we should search for information as being the last five years. You went on to clarify that you were interested to know if they occurred on the section of road marked with chevrons and how many vehicles were involved. You also asked for information about how many accidents had occurred on the rest of the M11 and how many vehicles were involved. We have now completed our search for the requested information.

Attached at Annex A is a map showing the latest validated personal injury accident data for the period 1 January 2014 to 31 December 2018 for the M11 junctions 9 to 8 southbound only. The data is summarised in this table:

Year	Number of Collisions	Number of Vehicles Involved	Injury Severity		
			Fatal	Serious	Slight
2014	19	41	0	4	21
2015	13	37	0	2	20
2016	16	40	0	5	22
2017	16	42	0	4	22
2018	15	46	1	3	22
Total	79	206	1	18	107

This map also shows those incidents that occurred within the length of M11 marked with chevrons. The data is summarised in this table:

Year	Number of Collisions	Number of Vehicles Involved	Injury Severity		
			Fatal	Serious	Slight
2014	7	20	0	1	7
2015	8	22	0	1	15
2016	2	5	0	0	3
2017	3	7	0	0	5
2018	5	16	0	2	7
Total	25	70	0	4	37

Attached at Annex B is a map showing the latest validated personal injury accident data for the period 1 January 2014 to 31 December 2018 for the M11 junctions 6 to 14 in both directions. The data is summarised in this table:

Year	Number of Collisions	Number of Vehicles Involved	Injury Severity		
			Fatal	Serious	Slight
2014	89	193	3	22	128
2015	83	196	4	18	105
2016	110	269	0	20	154
2017	99	224	1	27	124
2018	91	215	4	16	125
Total	472	1097	12	103	636

Attached at Annex C is a spreadsheet that provides all the data in more detail, including weather conditions, daylight or darkness and vehicle type.

We do hold some accident data for 2019. However, it is not our policy to provide data that is not validated and may not therefore be accurate. The information will be published by the Department for Transport later this year once they have completed its validation.

I have therefore withheld 2019 data in reliance of [Section 22](#) of the Freedom of Information Act, information intended for future publication. This is a qualified exemption and therefore subject to a public interest test. We have applied the test and found that withholding the information outweighs publication at this time. A copy of the public interest test is attached to this reply.

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 our Customer Contact Centre 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 100956 in any future communications.

Yours sincerely

Business Services Manager (Customer)
Operations (East)
Email:

Request for Accident Data

FOIA Exemption S.22 – Information Intended for Future Publication

Factors supporting disclosure

- Disclosure of the information would be consistent with our commitment to proactively publishing data on matters of a wider public interest
- The public has an interest in learning the number and type of incidents that have occurred on any given section of the road network and expects data to be available.

Factors supporting non-disclosure

- Validated 2019 data is intended for publication by the Department for Transport later this year, 2020.
- Unvalidated data is likely to include errors and omissions that will be corrected during the validation process
- Publication on the Gov.UK website will take place once the validation process has been completed
- As the information is of interest to the wider public it is important it can be accessed simultaneously by the public rather than piecemeal by disclosure to a small number of individuals under the FOIA. Therefore, it is in the wider interest that information is accessible to the public by adhering to the publication schedule.

Conclusion: there are compelling arguments which support withholding the information which outweigh those supporting release.

Date of PIT review: 21 January 2019