

Our ref: FOI 102320

Patrick Byrnes
Highways England
1 Bridge House
Walnut Tree Close
Guildford
GU1 4LZ

www.highways.gov.uk

30 July 2021

Dear

Road Closure M25 junction 13-15 & A30 lane closure

Thank you for your request for information on providing the names who allowed the closure on M25 between junctions 13 to 15, for traffic to be diverted onto the A30 which had a lane closure dated 22 July 2021. I'm dealing with it under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

I'm writing to confirm that the information regarding the signatures of the road workers you requested is being withheld under the exemption in Section 40 <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2000/36/section/40> of the Freedom of Information Act 2000: Personal data.

Whilst the requested information has been withheld I believe it would be useful to provide details below of the closures and booking roadspace process, which led to these closures.

When booking roadspace on the M25 network, applicants submit booking requests to our internal booking system, which notifies us of any possible clashes with other works in the area. Bookings are then reviewed and approved or rearranged as required.

Roadspace on the M25 network is extremely competitive and we aim to achieve a balance between ensuring the carriageway remains safe and serviceable, and the impact on the travelling public and residents.

Whilst we do allow diversion routes along parts of the network that already have lane closures on the carriageway, we always consider the impacts of this before granting approval.

On this occasion, the booking was approved as we were unable to wait until the completion of the A30 Crooked Billet Scheme to carry out our routine maintenance activities between J13 and 15. Routine maintenance is essential to ensure that the M25 network is maintained in a safe and serviceable condition. Please see below a list of activities carried out in this road closure:

Drainage inspections, repairs, and cleaning
White lining and stud replacement
Routine structures maintenance
Pothole and carriageway repairs
Maintenance and repairs to the gantries
Sweeping of verges and the hard shoulder
Graffiti removal
Debris and litter collection
Vegetation clearance

If you're unhappy with the way we have handled your request you may ask for an internal review within 2 months of the date of this response for Freedom of Information requests and within 40 days for Environmental Information Regulations requests.

Our internal review process is available at:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/highways-england/about/complaintsprocedure>.

If you require a print copy, please phone the Information Line on 0300 123 5000; or e-mail 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 FOI 102320 in any future communications.

Yours sincerely

OD SE Business Management Team
OPSSEBMT@highwaysengland.co.uk