



19 July 2018

Dear,

Request for Information – ATISN 12423

I wrote to you on 22 June regarding your request for information. You asked for the pollution level readings before, during and after the six-month trial closure of the slip road at Junction 41 at Port Talbot.

I can confirm that we hold some information relating to your request which is provided at Annex A. You may wish to contact Neath Port Talbot Council who may be able to provide you with further information.

If you are dissatisfied with the Welsh Government's handling of your request, you can ask for an internal review within 40 working days of the date of this response. Requests for an internal review should be addressed to the Welsh Government's Freedom of Information Officer at: Information Rights Unit, Welsh Government, Cathays Park, Cardiff, CF10 3NQ or Email: Freedom.of.information@gov.wales. Please remember to quote the ATISN reference number above.

You also have the right to complain to the Information Commissioner. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. However, please note that the Commissioner will not normally investigate a complaint until it has been through our own internal review process.

Yours sincerely

Programme Delivery Manager



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IMPACT OF M4 MOTORWAY JUNCTION CLOSURES ON NITROGEN DIOXIDE LEVELS

Impact of M4 motorway junction closures on nitrogen dioxide levels.

Nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) diffusion tubes were deployed at 19 locations on the local authority network in order to study the effect of the closure of junctions on the M4 motorway in Port Talbot. These locations were chosen where traffic modelling suggested that traffic would be increased the most and where topography suggested any pollution would be at its worst.

Table 1 Average NO₂ concentrations April to November 2014.

Id	Average Concentration NO ₂ µg/m ³		
	4 months prior	4 months post	8 months all
61	28.9	36.4	33.9
54	26.2	29.9	28.0
64	24.1	27.4	25.7
67	22.2	24.2	23.2
68	21.1	23.2	22.2
53	20.1	23.0	21.5
58	20.4	22.5	21.1
57	18.7	21.9	20.9
60	17.7	21.6	19.7
52	17.6	21.2	19.1
66	17.0	18.3	17.9
65	15.8	18.2	16.7
59	15.3	17.7	16.5
51	15.4	17.7	15.8
62	14.0	17.1	15.6
63	14.1	16.0	15.3
56	13.4	15.2	15.1
50	11.1	14.9	12.8
55	10.8	13.9	12.5

Note: The 2013 bias adjustment factor of 0.75 has been used. The 2014 bias adjustment factor can only be applied after all of the 2014 data has been collected i.e. usually by late March 2015 after all lab results have been received.

The 19 sites on the local authority network complied with the long term air quality objective for NO₂ (40 µg/m³). However, these results reflect mainly summer NO₂ concentrations which will inevitably increase during the winter months.