



29 March 2019

Dear ,

Request for Information – ATISN 13006

I wrote to you on 7 March regarding your request for information. Please accept my apologies for the delay in sending you this response. You asked:

1. How many times, for each year over the past 10 years, have closures on the M4 between J23a-J28 caused severe traffic delays and caused motorists to divert onto other alternative routes.

In my letter of 7 March, I referred to my earlier letter to you of 26 February, reference ATISN 12940, which explained the Welsh Government only holds records for low level incidents from July 2011 onwards. The search for information has therefore been undertaken since that time only. The information we hold is given below:

2019 – 5
2018 – 144
2017 – 202
2016 – 111
2015 – 16
2014 – 30
2013 – 18
2012 – 6

Separately, again whilst not covering the entire data set requested, information regarding incidents, including closures, during 2015 is set out in the [Traffic Expert Witness evidence](#) published to the M4 Corridor around Newport Project Public Inquiry. This study concluded there were 82 specific incidents leading to disruption on the M4 motorway around Newport in 2015. This equates to one incident every four to five days.



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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding .

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.ofinformation@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