



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Our ref ATISN 14326

13 October 2020

Dear

### Request for Information – ATISN 14326

I wrote to you on 22 September regarding your request for information. You asked for information regarding the following five trunk-road locations in Wales, where speed limits were reduced to 50mph in 2018 with the aim of improving the quality of local air:

- A494 at Deeside (North Wales Zone)
  - A483 near Wrexham (North Wales Zone)
  - M4 between Junctions 41 and 42 at Port Talbot (Swansea and South Wales Zone)
  - M4 between Junctions 25 and 26 at Newport (South Wales Zone)
  - A470 between Upper Boat and Pontypridd (South Wales Zone)
1. Data showing NO2 concentrations, and any other traffic-related airborne pollutants which are monitored at the sites, from August 2019 to February 2020
  2. Data showing NO2 concentrations, and any other traffic-related airborne pollutants which are monitored at the sites, from August 2018 to February 2019
  3. Data showing NO2 concentrations, and any other traffic-related airborne pollutants which are monitored at the sites, from August 2017 to February 2018
  4. Data showing the proportion of vehicles complying with the 50mph speed limit from August 2019 to February 2020.



**BUDDSODDWYR** | **INVESTORS**  
**MEWN POBL** | **IN PEOPLE**

Llywodraeth Cymru /  
Welsh Government  
Parc Cathays / Cathays Park  
CF10 3NQ

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.

I can confirm that the Welsh Government holds some information caught by your request. Please see information appended at Annex A in response to all four questions.

Please note that for question 1, the data recorded by the roadside diffusion tubes for this period is included, however, we hold limited data from the roadside permanent monitors. This is due to the south Wales monitors not becoming operational until late February 2020. The diffusion tubes and permanent monitors are only able to record nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) concentrations. Other pollutants such as carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) and particulate matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub>) are not being recorded at this time.

For question 2, the data recorded by the roadside diffusion tubes for this period is included in the attached document, however, no permanent monitor data is available, as they had not yet been installed. As above, the diffusion tubes are only able to record nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) concentrations. Other pollutants such as carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) and particulate matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub> and PM<sub>10</sub>) are not being recorded at this time.

For question 3, the Welsh Government holds limited data from the diffusion tubes, as monitoring only commenced in late December 2017. Again, no data from the roadside monitors is available for this period.

For your final question, the percentage compliance data recorded by the average speed cameras following their commission in early September 2019 up to the end of February 2020 is generally included in Annex A, however, there are some gaps when there were communication failures between the cameras and the suppliers' data server. We do not hold detailed compliance data for the M4 Junction 25 to Junction 26, as this is held by GoSafe as they are responsible for enforcement of the Variable Speed Limit on the M4 around Newport.

You may wish to contact GoSafe for further information:

<https://gosafe.org/contact-us/freedom-of-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.ofinformation@gov.wales](mailto: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