

13 October 2023

Dear

ATISN 18989 – Request for Information

Information requested

Thank you for your request for information dated 16 September 2023. You asked for:

Related to **Emissions** is:-

What Environmental legislation is contravened in order to introduce a 20mph default limit in Wales if it increases emissions from vehicles on certain free flowing roads? Considering the evidence given in the 'Introduction 1/ Emissions' paragraphs earlier that there are more engine emissions from a typical petrol or diesel car at a steady 20mph than at a steady 30mph because it takes one and a half times as long to travel a given distance at 20mph as it does at 30mph, what testing has been done by the Welsh Government to find out the minimum length of free flowing road with a 30mph limit is needed to ensure there are less engine emissions than if it has a 20 mph limit considering the small amount of extra fuel needed repeatedly accelerating up to 30mph rather than 20mph after each stop, and the slightly increased aerodynamic drag?

My FOI request relating to **Cyclist's safety** is:-

The 'Get Ready for 20mph' leaflet states that there will be 6-10 lives saved every year in Wales. With regard to cyclists, what risk assessment has been undertaken to assess the dangers to them from the increased risk of collision with a passing vehicle that is taking much longer to pass due to a 20mph limit rather than a 30mph limit, or from an oncoming vehicle from the other direction taking a longer time to overtake.

What computer modelling has been undertaken for this risk assessment and has the increased risk of collisions due to an increase in the number of cyclists that the Welsh Government is encouraging with it's 20mph limit been considered.

Our response

The information you have requested is available on our website, here:

[The state of the evidence on 20mph speed limits with regards to road safety, active travel and air pollution impacts: August 2018 \(gov.wales\)](#)

Next steps

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