



Department for Transport

Michael Corridan
ROAD INVESTMENT STRATEGY
DEPARTMENT FOR TRANSPORT
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Mr Peter Silverman
By email: request-691531-6f23e7df@whatdotheyknow.com

Web Site: www.dft.gov.uk

Our Ref: F0018878

7 October 2020

Dear Mr Silverman,

I refer to your recent request under the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act 2000, a follow-up to your previous correspondence, F0018436, for information about the operations, maintenance, renewals and business costs for RIS2. In reference to the reply you received, you stated:

“This implies that the figures shown were not sourced internally by totalling component elements but taken from externally provided documents. Please provide me with copies of these external documents.

To avoid doubt:

- 1. I am only interested in the information extant at the time of the publication of RIS2*
- 2. I am interested in documents relating to all of the figures in the table.*
- 3. I want to see the documents in their entirety not just what you might consider are the relevant sections.*
- 4. If any of them contain information which you consider exempt please provide the document with the exempt information redacted saying why for each element removed rather than refuse any document as a whole.”*

Department officials have considered this request. As confirmed in our previous response, the Department does not hold more granular financial material than what is published in RIS2. However, officials have indicated that a useful source of information for you to refer to, over and above RIS2 itself, would be Highways England’s recently published Delivery Plan: <https://highwaysengland.co.uk/delivery-plan/index.html>. This document gives greater detail on Opex funding. It was published after RIS2 and reflects Highways England assessment of Investment Plan delivery, so individual spending lines are not directly comparable with RIS2.

Additionally, you may want to look at the Office of Rail and Road (ORR)’s Efficiency Review of RIS2: <https://www.orr.gov.uk/sites/default/files/om/ris2-efficiency-review-orr-advice-on-highways-englands-draft-strategic-business-plan.pdf>. This considered Highways England’s proposals for the Second Roads Period (2020-2025) (RP2), as set in its draft

Strategic Business Plan-which was produced before RIS2 was published. The ORR considers Opex as part of a wider review of spending on operations, maintenance and renewals. Figure 8.9 (p67) of this document reviews Opex proposals by spending line across the First Roads Period (RP1) and RP2.

If you are unhappy with the way the Department has handled your request or with the decisions made in relation to your request, you may complain within two calendar months of the date of this letter by writing to the Department's FOI Advice Team at:

Zone D/04
Ashdown House
Sedlescombe Road North
Hastings
East Sussex TN37 7GA
E-mail: FOI-Advice-Team-DFT@dft.gov.uk

Please send or copy any follow-up correspondence relating to this request to the FOI Advice Team to help ensure that it receives prompt attention. Please also remember to quote the reference number F0018878 above in any future communications.

Please see attached details of DfT's complaints procedure and your right to complain to the Information Commissioner.

Yours sincerely,



Michael Corridan

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07779 555382

Your right to complain to DfT and the Information Commissioner

You have the right to complain within two calendar months of the date of this letter about the way in which your request for information was handled and/or about the decision not to disclose all or part of the information requested. In addition a complaint can be made that DfT has not complied with its FOI publication scheme.

Your complaint will be acknowledged and you will be advised of a target date by which to expect a response. Initially your complaint will be re-considered by the official who dealt with your request for information. If, after careful consideration, that official decides that his/her decision was correct, your complaint will automatically be referred to a senior independent official who will conduct a further review. You will be advised of the outcome of your complaint and if a decision is taken to disclose information originally withheld this will be done as soon as possible.

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