



Andy Soames

By email: request-670085-4aa3f33e@whatdotheyknow.com

Network Rail
Freedom of Information
The Quadrant
Elder Gate
Milton Keynes
MK9 1EN

T 01908 782405
E FOI@networkrail.co.uk

9 July 2020

Dear Mr Soames

Information request

Reference number: FOI2020/00677

Thank you for your email of 11 June 2020 in which you requested the following information:

The request itself is:

I understand the signalling works are being developed in the following areas. I would like to request details of the scope of each project and details of its expected timeline, this can be by way of pre existing documents where they exist. For the avoidance of doubt as a minimum this should include the geographic boundaries of the scheme, details of whether the scheme is like for like or includes any enhancements, and where control of the signalling in the area will rest on completion.

*Middlesbrough
Harrogate-Poppleton
Selby and Gascoigne Wood
South Kirkby*

We are dealing with your request under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIRs), as the subjects you have asked about fall under the definition of 'environmental' information in the EIRs .

We need to extend the deadline for responding to this request whilst we review the relevant information you have asked for.

Under regulation 7(1) of the EIRs a public authority may 'extend the period of 20 working days ... to 40 working days if it reasonably believes that the complexity and volume of the information requested means that it is impracticable either to comply with the request within the earlier period or to make a decision to refuse to do so.'

The Information Commissioner's guidance makes it clear that a public authority should apply this section of the EIRs when *'it reasonably believes it will require additional time to locate and provide the information because the requester has asked for a large amount of complex information and it would not be practical to provide the information or make a decision about whether to refuse the request within 20 working days.'*¹

In this instance we need to consult further with our expert colleagues to determine whether it is appropriate to disclose this information while the project is ongoing. In the ICO's terms this means that it is not practical to make a decision about whether to refuse the request and it is, therefore, necessary to extend the time in line with the provisions of regulation 7(1). Accordingly, I will now aim to respond to you by 10 August 2020 or sooner if possible.

If you have any enquiries about this response, please contact me in the first instance at FOI@networkrail.co.uk or on 01908 782405. Details of your appeal rights are below.

Please remember to quote the reference number at the top of this letter in all future communications.

Yours sincerely

Emma Baker
Information Officer

Appeal Rights

If you are unhappy with the way your request has been handled and wish to make a complaint or request a review of our decision, please write to the FOI Compliance and Appeals Manager at Network Rail, Freedom of Information, The Quadrant, Elder Gate, Milton Keynes, MK9 1EN, or by email at foi@networkrail.co.uk. Your request must be submitted within 40 working days of receipt of this letter.

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,

¹ For further guidance as to the application of the EIRs, you may wish to consult the Information Commissioner's website at:

https://ico.org.uk/media/for-organisations/documents/1641/guide_to_environmental_information_regulations.pdf

Cheshire
SK9 5AF