

11th October 2021

Dear P Swift

[request-770258-97a49dc1@whatdotheyknow.com](mailto:request-770258-97a49dc1@whatdotheyknow.com)

***I am writing to request an internal review of South Yorkshire Police's handling of my FOI request 'M1 Jct 31/32 Incidents 6th April 2021'.***

***Please could you review the response. I made an identical request to Highways England and they have identified an incident stated to be reported to the police***

***Highways England have written:***

***'I can confirm that Highways England passed the details about erratic driving by a member of the public to the South Yorkshire Police Constabulary.'***

**Internal Review reference No: 2021651 and Freedom of Information request reference: 20211423**

Following your email of 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2021, I accept that the contents of the email constitute an appeal following an expression of dissatisfaction following the response that was sent to you on the 27<sup>th</sup> July 2021. Ref 20211423

I apologise for the delay in replying to you, we have a backlog of requests due to a vacant post which is unfortunately impacting on some of our response times.

I am independent of the original decision making process. Guidance states it is best practice for someone other than the original decision maker to conduct an Internal Review.

### **Original Request**

***I ask to be provided information held about incidents reported occurring between Junction 31 and 32 of the M1 motorway, North and South bound, on 06/04/2021 between 11pm and midnight***

### **Original Response**

I approached the administrator for South Yorkshire Police's Incident Management System.

The Smart system records the majority of calls to South Yorkshire Police requiring the specific deployment of police resources, whether reported by members of the public via 999 or 101 or 'happened upon' by officers and staff in the course of their duties. The log runs as a running commentary of an incident as it unfolds. They have advised that they have checked between the hours and date as requested and there are no incidents relating to the M1.

Therefore, in this instance our response is one of "No Information Held".

### **Review of the Original Decision**

I have reviewed your original request and the response provided. I note your dissatisfaction is with the data provided being a Nil response.

As I am reviewing this request I recontacted our Comms team with the detail you provided from Highways England to check again. They have reviewed their systems and provided the following explanation.

*The new information now refers to erratic driving. I have done a further search and still cannot find anything along these lines of enquiry during the times/date provided.*

*I have spoken to a Team Leader who works with Motorways Radio and they have confirmed it doesn't sound likely that an incident wouldn't have been created. The only time this may occur is if there was a long delay in reporting the debris, and Highways had already attended and dealt with 'no response required' from police.*

*If we were informed of a collision or erratic driving – even if the vehicle details were not known, we would have created an incident.*

The Comms team have now completed 2 searches with different criteria and our response is still one of "No Information Held"

After taking all the above new search of the system and the explanation into consideration, your internal review is not upheld.

If you are still dissatisfied with how your request has been handled, you can raise this with the Information Commissioner. Contact details below: -

Information Commissioner's Office  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow,  
Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Website: [www.ico.org.uk](http://www.ico.org.uk)

Yours sincerely

South Yorkshire Police  
Information Compliance Unit  
Professional Standards Department  
Unit 20 Sheffield 35A Business Park  
Churchill Way  
Sheffield  
S35 2PY

Email – [foi@southyorks.police.uk](mailto:foi@southyorks.police.uk)

If you are still dissatisfied with how your request has been handled, you can raise this with the Information Commissioner. Contact details below: -

Information Commissioner's Office  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow,  
Cheshire, SK9 5AF.

Website: [www.ico.org.uk](http://www.ico.org.uk)

Yours sincerely

South Yorkshire Police  
Information Compliance Unit  
Professional Standards Department  
Unit 20 Sheffield 35A Business Park  
Churchill Way  
Sheffield  
S35 2PY

Email – [foi@southyorks.police.uk](mailto:foi@southyorks.police.uk)