

Our ref: CRS 757698

Andrew Wright

Email: request-452768-  
d77a7df3@whatdotheyknow.com

Sarkis Armaghianian  
Highways England  
2nd Floor  
Bridge House  
1 Walnut Tree Close  
Guildford GU1 4LZ

02 January 2018

Dear Mr Wright

I am writing to confirm that we have now completed our search for the information, which you requested on 14 December 2017. In that request, you asked us for information relating to an incident on the M2 at junction 1 under the Freedom of Information Act.

Please see below your questions and our answers:

***When did it occur?***

Incident took place at 04:20 am 6 December 2017.

***When was the first unit on scene?***

Highways England Traffic Officers unit first arrived on scene at 4:27.

***What was used to clean the spill?***

We used a chemical called Fuel Safe which is a strong detergent.

***When did this start and finish?***

Incident start time was 04:20, all lanes re-opened at 12:17.

***Why did it take so long?***

The incident took the time it did because the recovery services couldn't get the cab separated from the trailer as it had too much damage from the crash. Once they finished recovery we then had to finish cleaning the road. The diesel spill of about 700 litres was about 75 metres long in lane 4 and then travelled from lane 4 to the hard shoulder.

### ***What was the cost?***

The main aspect of damage was to a solar gate which is not an 'off the shelf' item. Our sub-contractor has been asked to provide a detailed quotation for the repair/replacement but as yet, the costs are unknown. Unfortunately, we cannot put a figure on the whole claim costs until such time as we hear from the sub-contractor.

### ***Why was it not resurfaced?***

Immediately following the incident, it was determined that the carriageway was safe to fully re-open. If diesel has affected the binder course (the second layer of the road) then it takes a few weeks before any deformation will show at the surface. An assessment of the road surface will be carried out to determine if any damage has been done to the binder course and if resurfacing is required. This will likely be carried out in January 2018, however we continue with weekly safety inspections, which would pick up any safety critical carriageway damage in the meantime.

If you are unhappy with the way we have handled your request you may ask for an internal review. Our internal review process is available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/highways-england/about/complaints-procedure>

If you require a print copy, please phone the Information Line on 0300 123 5000; or e-mail [info@highwaysengland.co.uk](mailto:info@highwaysengland.co.uk). You should contact me if you wish to complain.

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

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact me. Please remember to quote reference number CRS 757698 in any future communications.

Yours sincerely



Sarkis Armaghian  
OD South East Correspondence Team