



**Paul Barker**  
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7<sup>th</sup> July 2016

Dear Mr Barker

**Information request**  
**Reference number:** FOI2016/00683

Thank you for your request of . You requested the following information:

*'Current status and costs of proposed project to allow direct services from Hastings to London St Pancras via Ashford using HS1.*

*Please publish any project plans and timescales for any upgrade work to line speed and signaling between Ashford to Hastings. Also any dualing and electrification work that is planned. This includes any works that has to be completed at Ashford station.*

*Also date when Kent Route study document will be published.'*

I have processed your request under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIRs) as the information requested is environmental according to the definition in regulation 2 of the EIRs (section 39 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) exempts environmental information from the FOIA, but requires us to consider it under the EIRs).

#### **Regulation 12(4)(d) – material in the course of completion**

I can confirm that we hold the information you have requested, however, we have concluded that much of it is excepted from disclosure by virtue of regulation 12(4)(d) of the EIRs. This regulation provides an exception to the duty to make environmental information available when the request relates to material which is still in the course of completion, unfinished documents or incomplete data.

For a full explanation of the exception, our reasons for believing that it is engaged and our reasons for thinking that the public interest favours non-disclosure, please see annex attached.

## **The scheduled publication of the Kent Route Study**

We intend to publish the Kent Route Study in autumn of this year and are hopeful that it will be ready in September of this year.

If you have any enquiries about this response, please contact me in the first instance at [FOI@networkrail.co.uk](mailto: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

**Jonathan Mantle**  
**Information Officer**

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### **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](mailto: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  
Cheshire SK9 5AF