

Annex B – FOI18-2105 – Public Interest Test

FOI8 2105:	Please also provide minutes of any meetings that HS2 Ltd have had in the last 12 months with Highways England regarding road user disruption.
Date:	30 October 2018
EIR 2004 – Regulation 12(5)(a): Public Safety	
Factors supporting disclosure	Factors supporting non-disclosure
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Compliance with FOIA and EIR public authority obligations to be transparent, to assist information applicants with their requests for information and to release relevant information to the public.• General public interest in the disclosure of information to ensure transparency and visibility of public bodies being held to account regarding decisions made.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The information contains the details of access locations and their security at construction sites. Disclosure could make the sites targets for sabotage.• Disclosure would not be in the public interest in demonstrating accountability for public spending, or shed light on the management of the infrastructure. Disclosure would only contribute to increasing knowledge of the specific security measures and site access areas and put the public at risk of harm.• There is no foreseeable benefit to the public in releasing the information. HS2 Ltd considers that were this information to be disclosed, the safety of staff working at the sites as well as the public could be endangered by increased risk of criminal activity.• Health and safety is one of HS2 Ltd's intrinsic core values. One of our strategic goals is to build a railway that is designed, built and operated to the highest health and safety standards. It is not in the public interest to disclose

	security and access details giving the potential for harm.
<p>Conclusion:</p> <p>The decision to withhold the information under Regulation 12(5)(a) of the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 is upheld in light of the arguments against disclosure.</p> <p>Disclosure of this information is likely to cause harm to HS2 Ltd's security measures and increase the risk of harm by malicious parties to HS2 staff and the public. The disclosure of the access points and security details of the sites could adversely impact upon the protection of the public from accident or the project from acts of sabotage. It could also adversely affect the safety of the HS2 staff where the works take place.</p> <p>For these reasons we believe regulation 12(5)(a) applies and the reasons against disclosure outweigh the public interest in releasing the information.</p>	