

Our Reference: 101137
Your Reference: 640227-a97ab49b

Mr C J Wilson
By Email: request-640227-
a97ab49b@whatdotheyknow.com

**Safety Engineering and Standards
Official Correspondence Team**
Highways England
Woodlands
Manton Lane
Bedford
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15 June 2020

Dear Mr Wilson

Freedom of Information Request

Thank you for your request for information about supporting papers for smart motorways dated 1 June 2020.

Your original FOI request dated 3 March 2020 was

1	The supporting papers at every stage of the project management
2	How it was concluded Smart motorways would be as safe or safer than regular motorways.

This was closed as we did not receive a response from you within the given timeframe.

Your new FOI request is:

1	dynamic hard shoulder, or all lane running
2	when will it be published

With regards to Question 2, the [Smart Motorway Safety Evidence Stocktake and Action Plan](#) was published by the Department for Transport on Thursday 12 March; please click on the link to view the report.

With regards to Question 1, we are refusing this question as vexatious under Section 14 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, specifically this indicator quoted below:

“Burden on the authority

The effort required to meet the request will be so grossly oppressive in terms of the strain on time and resources, that the authority cannot reasonably be expected to comply, no matter how legitimate the subject matter or valid the intentions of the requester.”

An initial search of our records returned 66,405 records for “dynamic hard shoulder” and 455, 924 for “all lane running”.

We also view this as intransigent on the basis that you are not engaging with the advice we are providing to help you reduce the size of your requests, whereby you continue to ask for “all information”.

As we have advised in your previous request (FOI 100781) and evidenced by the amount of information returned by the searches it is not possible to provide “*all information*” at “*every stage*” because the time it would take to review the information for sensitive material, apply exemptions and make any redactions to prepare the information for disclosure would place a grossly oppressive burden on the authority.

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact us by email: info@highwaysengland.co.uk. Please kindly quote reference number 101137 in any future communications.

Yours sincerely

**Safety Engineering and Standards
Official Correspondence Team**