

Mr M Smith

Our ref 8000040019

By email only: [request-314202-  
f7bc3970@whatdotheyknow.com](mailto:request-314202-f7bc3970@whatdotheyknow.com)

2 March 2016

Dear Mr Smith

**REQUEST FOR INFORMATION UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT  
2000**

Please find below TfGM's response to your Freedom of Information request which was received at this office on 3 February 2016.

***Information requested as set out in bold below:******"TfGM says that traffic along the A580 has increased by over 3 per cent. Please can you tell me how this was worked out. Please include the actual data and calculations."******"Does this increase take into account that less traffic has been using the route because of the roadworks over the last few years?"***

The information that has been provided relates to Salford West. We are unsure where you have obtained the information relating to the A580, and are therefore unable to answer the above questions without clarification as to the source as to where the '3 per cent' figure has come from.

***"Now that the roadworks have finished and bus lanes are in, has more traffic been using the route compared to when roadworks were there?"***

Comparing traffic volumes at the Automatic Traffic Counter (ATC) on the A580 located approximately 160 meters east of Broadbent Street in January 2016 to traffic volumes at the same ATC site in January 2015 shows traffic volumes on the eastbound during the morning peak (07:00-09:00) are down by 13.3% and on the westbound during the evening peak (16:00-18:00) traffic volumes are down by 13.1%.

It should be noted that the decrease in traffic volumes during the peak times shown above do not reflect a decrease in the demand for travel along the A580. It is likely that the lower peak period traffic volumes between January 2015 and January 2016 are a result of the reduced capacity of the highway at the ATC site. If the analysis is repeated for an average 24 hour weekday in both directions there is an increase between January 2015 and January 2016 of 2.8%.

***“Please can you provide the actual increase (numbers and per cent) in traffic along the section between Moorside Road and Worsley Road in the eastbound direction between 7am and 9am between 2011 and now?”***

The table below shows change in traffic volumes eastbound for an average weekday between 7am and 9am in January 2011 and January 2016.

Jan-16	Jan-11	Actual Difference	% Change
3829	5123	-1294	-25%

This information was produced using data from the Automatic Traffic Counter (ATC) on the A580 located approximately 160 meters east of Broadbent Street (between Moorside Road and Worsley Road).

***“Please can you provide the actual increase on traffic in the westbound direction between 4pm and 6pm between Worsley Road and Moorside Road between 2011 and now?”***

The table below shows change in traffic volumes westbound on an average weekday between 4pm and 6pm in January 2011 and January 2016.

Jan-16	Jan-11	Actual Difference	% Change
3856	4718	-862	-18%

This information was produced using data from the ATC on the A580 located approximately 160 meters east of Broadbent Street (between Moorside Road and Worsley Road).

Again, it should be noted that the decrease in traffic volumes during the peak times shown above do not reflect a decrease in the demand for travel along the A580. It is likely that the lower peak period traffic volumes in January 2016 are a result of the reduced capacity of the highway at the ATC site. In January 2011, at the ATC site, the A580 comprised of three general traffic lanes in each direction whilst in January 2016, at the same location, the road consisted of two general

traffic lanes and a bus lane in each direction. If we repeat the analysis above for an average 24 hour weekday in both directions there is a small increase between January 2011 and January 2016 (see the table below).

Jan-16	Jan-11	Actual Difference	% Change
45408	45007	401	1%

This information was produced using data from the ATC on the A580 located approximately 160 meters east of Broadbent Street (between Moorside Road and Worsley Road).

If you are not satisfied with the response in this letter you may ask for an internal review. If you would like an internal review you should contact me in the first instance. My e-mail address is at the end of this letter.

If you remain dissatisfied after an internal review has been undertaken, you have a right to apply to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Office of the Information Commissioner  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire  
SK9 5AF

[www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk](http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk)

Please remember to quote the above reference number in any future communications.

Yours sincerely



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