

Our ref: HAIL: 13577723 CRS: 702643
Your ref:

David Sledge

Mr James Miller
4 Colebrook Place
Winchester
SO23 9LP

2/07K
Temple Quay House
2 The Square, Temple Quay
Bristol BS1 6HA

Direct Line: 0117 372 8841

Date: 17 January 2014

Dear Mr James Miller

Thank you for your request for information about litter on the M5 between junction 25 and 31. Your request was received on 05 January 2014 and I am dealing with it under the terms of the Environmental Information Regulations 2004.

The information you requested was for litter cleaning statistics for this stretch of motorway for the 12 months to December 2013.

I can confirm that the M5 is assessed monthly in accordance with the code of practise on litter and refuse (DEFRA 2006). The litter is graded and removal instructed as required. Paved areas must be returned to grade A and non paved to grade B.

Daily inspections are carried out to pick up debris 'from the back of a lorry'. Monthly inspections will identify where Grade B/C/D litter is present.

During last years monthly inspections litter was removed at various locations between junction 25 and 31 on the following dates:

- 08/02/2013
- 04/03/2013
- 09/04/2013
- 05/04/2013
- 25/07/2013
- 14/08/2013
- 13/08/2013
- 19/08/2013
- 27/08/2013
- 17/09/2013
- 17/10/2013

These dates are when targeted litter picking took place there are multiples in April and August due to the school holidays. Our contractor's area inspector and area engineer drove the route from junction 31 to junction 22 on the 07 January 2014 and evidence of

grade C/D litter was not immediately apparent, but this could well be due to the fact that litter had been picked by our daily driven inspections of this section of the network.

I do acknowledge that litter is a nuisance to our customers, and we are certainly working hard to establish the balance between it not becoming a nuisance and the reality of ensuring that the costs of frequent litter picking and the safety of our network are not compromised.

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact me. Please remember to quote the reference number above in any further communications.

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:
<http://www.highways.gov.uk/foicomplaints>

If you require a print copy, please phone the Highways Agency Information Line on 0300 123 5000; or e-mail ha_info@highways.gsi.gov.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

Yours sincerely



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