

Environmental Information Regulations (EIRs) – response

Our Reference: P0014828

Dear Mr Silverman,

Highways England and Litter communications

In reference to your request dated 11th May 2017, please find below responses to your recent FOI request. Due to your request for information relating to or affecting the environment your request has been considered in accordance with the Environmental Information Regulations (EIRs). I have addressed your questions below.

- 1. Monitoring reports for each of the 6 hotspots. If it is not clear from the document please state who carried out the inspections i.e. HE or their contractor.**

Our response:

The Department does not hold the information you have requested. In answer to your question regarding who monitors each area, this depends on the area itself as to whether it is monitored by Highways England or the contractor. Highways England oversee the results sent in from specific regions.

- 2. Minutes of the weekly meetings referred to.**

Our response:

The Department does not hold the information you have requested. Highways England may hold this information.

- 3. Please provide me with a copy of the note referred to.**

Our response:

No such note exists, it was agreed the update would be provided verbally.

- 4. Please provide me with copies of the most recent 4 documents which record the monitoring of this overall implementation**

Our response:

Please see attached recent documents on monitoring as sent to us from Highways England.

- 5. Please provide me with copies of any documents dated within the last 6 months which make reference to this monitoring and/or the standard of performance being achieved.**

Our response: Taken from joint briefing note on measuring litter (dated 15/5/17)

Measuring litter on Motorways

- Measuring the amount of litter on motorways is done in a few different ways.
- The main metric for customer satisfaction seems to be the number of complaints HE receives.
- This is a complicated picture because HE are not responsible for litter collection on much of the SRN, and anecdotally it appears that many of the problem areas are in places where local authorities are responsible, and are not cleaning the roadsides often or well enough. Defra are about to do a survey on the extent of the problem.
- Reallocating responsibility and resources to Highways England (HE) has been proposed.
- Highways England have been working collaboratively with Service Area Operators. In 2016 HE partnered with a number of stakeholders installing unusually shaped bins to influence littering behaviour at Moto Service Area, Winchester. The intervention was deemed a success as littering was reduced. Building on partnership working Highways England are drafting a note to all Service Area Operators who have facilitated our interventions on their Service Area sites, sharing the case studies and data which will hopefully encourage more collaborative working that will help reduce litter on Service Area sites and on the network through interventions.
- In 2016 and 2017 HE supported Keep Britain Tidy. In 2017 Highways England again supported the Great British Spring Clean where over 8,000 bags of litter were collected from the network.
- Highways England receive monthly updates on how cleaning up the 25 Litter Hotspots is progressing. We do not hold any records of monitoring in the department, but more information on Highway's England's Litter Strategy can be found here:
https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/532214/S160106_Litter_Strategy.pdf

Please also see attached recent documents on monitoring as sent to us from Highways England.

Many Thanks,