

Our ref: CRS 578,954  
Your ref:

[Name removed under the Data Protection Act]  
3 Floor South  
Lateral  
8 City Walk  
Leeds LS11 9AT

Direct Line:  
Fax: 0113 283 5480

12 May 2008

Dear [Name removed under the Data Protection Act]

## **A1 LANE CLOSURES FOR LITTER CLEARANCE**

I am writing to confirm that we have now completed our search for the information, which you requested on 21 April.

In the past year the Highways Agency has received no formal applications from Harrogate, Hambleton or Richmondshire District Councils asking it to make temporary traffic regulation orders for lane closures on the A1 in North Yorkshire to allow the clearance of litter to take place. Such applications can be made by a local authority under section 89(6) of the Environmental Protection Act 1990.

The Highways Agency requires that all maintenance work on the A1 in North Yorkshire involving lane closures is carried out at night, between the hours of 8.00pm and 6.00am. Day-time lane closures would lead to unacceptably long delays for the travelling public. We recognise that this creates difficulties for district councils in discharging their responsibilities. Setting out lane closures to trunk road standards is expensive, particularly at night, and district council staff have little experience of working on high speed roads. Consequently, our maintaining agents in the area, A-one Integrated Highway Services, will do whatever they can to assist the district councils. Councils are routinely notified of works on the A1 where they could make use of our lane closures. A-one will provide help with preparing risk assessments and methods of working and will provide training for council operatives in safe working practices.

In keeping with the spirit and effect of the Environment Information Regulations, all information is assumed to be releasable to the public unless exempt. We will, therefore, be simultaneously releasing to the public the information you requested, together with any related information that will provide a key to its wider context via our website:

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

If you are unhappy with the way we have handled your request, you may ask for an internal review. A leaflet detailing our internal review process is available. If you require

a copy, please phone the Highways Agency Information Line on 08457 50 40 30; or email [ha\\_info@highways.gsi.gov.uk](mailto: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

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

Yours sincerely

[Name removed under the Data Protection Act]  
Network Operations Area 14