

TRANSPORT SCOTLAND
Transport Scotland

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brett.archibald@transport.gov.scot



Ellie Harrison
ellie@ellieharrison.com

Your ref:

Our ref:
202100232216

Date:
1 September 2021

Dear Ellie Harrison,

REQUEST UNDER THE ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2004 (EIRs)

Thank you for your request dated 19 August under the Environmental Information (Scotland) Regulations 2004 (EIRs).

Your request

You asked "Please can you tell me the total cost of all investigative and remedial works which have been, and will be carried out on M8 J16 - 17 (Woodside Viaduct), as detailed here:

<https://trafficscotland.org/tsgms02/>

I would also like to know what consultation was carried out with the local community in Woodside (and Glasgow more broadly) to determine whether they were in favour of spending this money or would have preferred to have the viaducts removed, as many other forward-thinking, climate- and wellbeing - oriented cities around the world are now doing?"

As the information you have requested is 'environmental information' for the purposes of the Environmental Information (Scotland) Regulations 2004 (EIRs), we are required to deal with your request under those Regulations. We are applying the exemption at section 39(2) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 (FOISA), so that we do not also have to deal with your request under FOISA.

This exemption is subject to the 'public interest test'. Therefore, taking account of all the circumstances of this case, we have considered if the public interest in disclosing the information outweighs the public interest in applying the exemption. We have found that, on balance, the public interest lies in favour of upholding the exemption, because there is no public interest in dealing with the same request under two different regimes. This is essentially a technical point and has no material effect on the outcome of your request.

Response to your request

The value of all investigative and remedial works, which have been carried out to date on M8 J16 - 17 (Woodside Viaduct), is £2.5m. The current estimated total cost is £33.6m.



Due to the strategic nature of the M8, removal of the viaducts was not considered. Therefore no consultation was undertaken on the Woodside Viaducts removal, however there has been robust and ongoing consultation with the local community, Glasgow City Council and other key stakeholders, as plans for the refurbishment are developed and implemented.

Your right to request a review

I hope this is helpful, but if you are unhappy with this response to your EIR request, you may ask us to carry out an internal review of the response, by writing to the Chief Executive at the above address or alternatively email chiefexecutive@transport.gov.scot. Your review request should explain why you are dissatisfied with this response, and should be made within 40 working days from the date when you received this letter. We will complete the review and tell you the result, within 20 working days from the date when we receive your review request.

If you are not satisfied with the result of the review, you then have the right to appeal to the Scottish Information Commissioner. More detailed information on your appeal rights is available on the Commissioner's website at:
<http://www.itspublicknowledge.info/YourRights/Unhappywiththeresponse/AppealingtoCommissioner.aspx>.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'BA', with a stylized flourish extending from the end.

Brett Archibald
Network Bridges Manager