

13 October 2023

Dear David Watkins

ATISN 18991 – Request for Information

Information requested

Thank you for your request for information dated 16 September. You asked for:

The calculations and research used that the Ministers have to be able to state that 'At 20mph most journeys will only take 1 minute longer.

Our response

The impact on average journey times is taken from the Explanatory Memorandum to the Restricted Roads (20mph Speed Limit) (Wales) Order 2022 available here: EM Regulatory Impact Assessment – 20mph Speed Limits (senedd.wales) and which includes a Regulatory Impact Assessment. The statement 'most journeys will be around one minute longer' is supported by the detailed technical assessment described within that document and which considers the population, car journeys and distances travelled in Wales. This shows that on average, each car journey will be around one minute longer because of the change in speed limits to 20mph. The types of trips made on the affected roads are typically short and involve stop-start travel conditions. This means that the actual impact of the change in speed limits is often marginal.

Next steps

If you are dissatisfied with the Welsh Government's handling of your request, you can ask for an internal review within 40 working days of the date of this response. Requests for an internal review should be addressed to the Welsh Government's Freedom of Information Officer at:

Information Rights Unit,
Welsh Government,
Cathays Park,
Cardiff,
CF10 3NQ

or Email: Freedom.ofinformation@gov.wales

Please remember to quote the ATISN reference number above.

You also have the right to complain to the Information Commissioner. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow,

Cheshire,
SK9 5AF.

However, please note that the Commissioner will not normally investigate a complaint until it has been through our own internal review process.

Yours sincerely