

Trunk Roads: Network Management

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Our Ref:
FOI/08/01083

3 Nov 2008

Dear Mr Smith

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

Thank you for your request dated 18 September for information under the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act concerning the proposed motorway junction at Bishopton.

I first should clarify that as your request relates to Environmental Information, this has been considered under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIR), rather than the Freedom of Information Scotland Act 2002 (FOISA). This is because, under the FOISA, information is exempt information under Section 39 (2) (a) and (b) which states that:

"Information is exempt information if a Scottish public authority—

- (a) is obliged by regulations under section 62 (of FOISA) to make it available to the public in accordance with the regulations; or
- (b) would be so obliged but for any exemption contained in the regulations."

I will answer each of your questions in turn;

1. I can confirm that the STAG2 has been completed. The STAG2 supported the 2 options for connecting the development to the M8. An 'Options Selection Report' (OSR) is to be completed to determine the best overall option. The developer's consultant is currently working on progressing the OSR.


2. Transport Scotland recommendation and the Ministers' final decision cannot be made until the 'Options Selection Report' is completed.

You have also requested the following information;

1. For this part of your request we have applied Regulation 7 of the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 which allows for an extension from 20 to 40 working days for complex and high volume requests. We will therefore issue the requested documents no later than 1 December. However, we will endeavour to provide the documents as soon as possible.
2. Transport Scotland have not formally responded to the outline planning application for the proposed development at the Bishopton ROF site as recent information is being considered.
3. The Environmental Statement was part of the package referred to in question 2. Transport Scotland has not yet reviewed the new Environmental Statement.

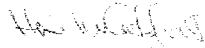
I hope you find this to be of assistance. If you require further clarification of these points then please do not hesitate to contact me.

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If you are unhappy with this response to your request, you may ask us to carry out an internal review, by writing to The Chief Executive, Transport Scotland, Buchanan House, 58 Port Dundas Road, Glasgow G4 0HF. Your request should explain why you wish a review to be carried out, and should be made within 40 working days of receipt of this letter, and we will reply within 20 working days of receipt. If you are not satisfied with the result of the review, you then have the right to make a formal complaint to the Scottish Information Commissioner.

Yours sincerely,



Hugh McCafferty
Head
Development Management and Strategic Road Safety