

Our ref: FOI 745,315
Your ref:

Operations Directorate Services Team
Manager
9th Floor
The Cube
199 Wharfside Street
Birmingham B1 1RN

19 December 2016

Dear

Thank you for your email of 21 November 2016 asking for roads and bridge data in relation to the flooding of December 2015. I am writing to confirm that we have now completed our search for the information.

In your email of 21 November you asked the following question:

Could you please send me the data about the roads and bridges were closed during flooding periods in northern Britain, such as the list of roads and bridges, or mapping. If I could get both of them, it would be a significantly support for my project.

Highways England is responsible for operating, maintaining and improving England's strategic road network which comprises approximately 4,300 miles of motorways and all-purpose trunk roads. The motorways and major roads in England that are managed by the Highways England can be viewed on our Network Management Map:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/roads-managed-by-the-highways-agency>

Other public roads in England are managed by local authorities. Roads in Scotland are managed by Transport Scotland <http://www.transportscotland.gov.uk/> and in Wales by the Welsh Government: <http://gov.wales/?skip=1&lang=en>.

The following Highways England bridges and roads were fully closed due to the December 2015 floods:

- A627(M) - flooding was coming from Manchester Road between Stake Hill and the A627(M) junction. Lanes 1 and 2 were under water resulting in an emergency slip road closure;
- Closure of M61 northbound junction 3 exit slip road to Kearsley – flooding was coming off the A666 northbound and across the exit slip at Kearsley Spur;
- A590 between Levens and Gilpin Bridge. This closure occurred on 5 December and lasted for approximately 24 hours;
- The A69 was closed at Warwick Bridge and at Melkridge. Warwick Bridge needed some minor repairs.
- A66 eastbound at Ravensworth;
- A1 southbound at Detchant.

Various other Highways England roads were also affected or partially closed due to flooding, but were not fully closed, examples of these are shown below:

A66	A66 opposite Darlington Football
A1	A1 Scremiston Berwick area
A66	A66 E/bound Bowes/Clint bridge
A1	Swallowwell on slip road - southbound A1
A66	Eaglescliff area - A66 west
A1	A1 northbound entry slip road - Catterick north
A1	A1 northbound Shotton interchange - Stannington Bridge
A66	A66 Barnard Castle
A1	A1 northbound junctions 65 to 66 - Eighton Lodge
A1M	A1M junctions 56 to 57
A1	A1 northbound junction 67 - Coalhouse entry slip road
A1	A1 northbound Catrick
A66	A66 East - Long Newton
A1	A1 northbound Holy Island junction
A1	A1 northbound Berwick - near A698 junction
A1	A1 southbound Shilbottle between Deanmoor Road & Hitchcroft Farm
A1	A1 northbound - after Beale services Low Lyn
A168	A168 Dumbells roundabout
A1	A1 northbound - north of Morrisons at Berwick
A1	A1 southbound Catterick south slip road
A66	A66 East Eaglescliffe exit
A1	A1 northbound junction 75 - A69

Highways England assisted various local authorities during this severe weather period. For example, we supported the local council and community after the Tadcaster Bridge collapse. As a consequence of the collapse and the subsequent use of the A64 as the diversion route, we immediately suspended all renewal and improvement works on the A64 in this area; four of our schemes were impacted. Following meetings with North Yorkshire County Council, these works were subsequently rescheduled with alternative traffic management arrangements in place to ensure that the diversion route was kept open at all times.

In addition we:

- Designed and constructed the A591 between Dunmail Raise & Thirlmere following the road collapse;
- Inspected 600 local authority bridges;
- Improved the drainage at Melkridge and other parts of the A69 that were affected, but not closed, to help mitigate the impact of such severe weather events;
- Deployed a High Volume Pump to help clear flooding in Cumbria.

If you are unhappy with the way we have handled your request you may ask for an internal review. Our internal review process is available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/highways-england/about/complaints-procedure>

If you require a print copy, please phone the Information Line on 0300 123 5000; or e-mail info@highwaysengland.co.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 reference number FOI 745,315 in any future communications.

Yours sincerely

Email: Ops_dst@highwaysengland.co.uk