

From: [Foi Enquiries](#)
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: EIR-17-0570 - Cycle Routes
Date: 21 April 2017 08:58:30
Attachments: [Further Information - Right to Review & Appeal.pdf](#)

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your information request of 20 April 2017. Aberdeen City Council (ACC) has completed the necessary search for the information requested.

We wish to enquire about the systems of safety inspection and maintenance you had in place as at 11 December 2013 for cycle routes which were owned or adopted by you for the maintenance purposes. In terms of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002, we should be grateful if you would confirm the following;

As at 11 December 2013, were your cycle routes categorised with reference to the Well-maintained Highways – Code of Practice for Highway Maintenance 2005, namely into one of three categories;

- **Cycle Route – Part of the Carriageway**
- **Cycle Route – Remote from Carriageway**
- **Cycle Route - Cycle Trails**

If not, how are they categorised?

Please see link below to the Aberdeen City Council 'Road Safety Inspection Manual', which was issued in compliance with guidelines set out in Well Maintained Highways 2005. Please see page 26.

http://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/web/files/Roads/road_safety_inspection_manual.pdf

As this is otherwise accessible it is exempt from disclosure. In order to comply with its obligations under the terms of Section 16 of the FOISA, ACC hereby gives notice that we are refusing your request under the terms of Section 25(1) - Information Otherwise Accessible - of the FOISA

For each of your categories of cycle route, as at 11 December 2013, did you have a pro-active system of inspection and maintenance (i.e. an Inspector of your council would inspect the cycle route at defined intervals and report back to you any actionable defects) or was the system reactive (i.e. you would only attend to inspect and thereafter rectify a defect once it was reported to you by a member of the public, the police and/or another body?

Cycle routes are inspected pro-actively and reactively by roads inspectors who oversee areas of the city. Where they form part of a carriageway they fall under the same inspection frequency and criteria as the carriageway they are alongside, where a cycleway forms part of the footway or

off road, they fall under the same inspection frequency and criteria as the footway. Routine inspections are carried out in accordance with the attributed categorisation and ad-hoc inspections are carried out on a reactive basis following reports from members of the public, the police or other bodies.

If the system was proactive, please answer the following;

- a) As at 11 December 2013, what frequency of safety inspections did you deem appropriate for each category of cycle route?**

Each cycle route is subject to the same inspection frequency as the carriageway or footway they are attributed to. Please see page 6 of the Road Safety Inspection Manual.

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- b) As at 11 December 2013, how were safety inspections of each category of cycle route carried out (i.e. by foot, by cycle or by vehicle along adjacent roadways)?**

Please see section 5.5 on page 7 of the Road Safety Inspection Manual.

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If the system was reactive, please answer the following;

- a) As at 11 December 2013, what was your timescale for attending to inspect a defect once reported to you for each category of cycle route?**

Defects that are reported by the public will be inspected within 5 working days and the

appropriate level of response will be determined using the guidelines set out within the Road Safety Inspection Manual.

As at 11 December, what criteria did you use to identify an actionable defect which required to be repaired on each category of cycle route?

Please see pages 16 to 25 of the Road Safety Inspection Manual, actionable safety defect intervention levels vary depending on the location, footway or carriageway, the type of defect and the classification attributed.

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6) As at 11 December 2013, what were your timescales for repairing actionable defects on each category of cycle route once the defects were identified?

Please see page 15 of the Road Safety Inspection Manual.

http://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/web/files/Roads/road_safety_inspection_manual.pdf

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We hope this helps with your request.

Yours sincerely,

Information Compliance Team

INFORMATION ABOUT THE HANDLING OF YOUR REQUEST

As the information which you requested is environmental information, as defined under Regulation 2(1) of the Environmental Information (Scotland) Regulations 2004 (the EIRs), ACC considered that it was exempt from release through FOISA, and must therefore give you notice that we are refusing your request under Section 39(2) of FOISA (Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002). However, you have a separate right to access the information which you have requested under Regulation 5 of the EIRs, under which ACC has handled your request. Please refer to the attached PDF for more information about your rights under the EIRs.

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