



FOI Request Rail Infrastructure Inspections

Reference	RSN20993
Request Stage	Request
Date Received	20/08/2020 (clarification provided 08/09/2020)
Date Responded	08/09/2020 (clarification sought 21/08/2020)
Disclosure	Not Held
Exemptions / Exceptions	N/A
Supporting Documents	N/A

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Request

Under the Freedom of Information Act, please could I request the following information:

1. What inspections activities does MerseyTravel perform?
2. How many inspections (of each type if possible) were performed in 2019/20?
3. How many inspectors do you employ, and what was the annual cost of these inspectors in 2019/20?
4. Do you use third parties to perform these inspections? If so, who did you use, and what was the annual spend in 2019/20?
5. What information management system, if any, do you use to manage the inspections, and what was the annual spend on this in 2019/20?

For avoidance of doubt, by 'inspections' I mean 'activities that are carried out to ensure the inspected entity meets legislative requirements for their role or function or condition, delivers on their duty of care for individuals or the public and/or adheres to any rules set by government on use of government funds'.

Clarification Sought

Further to your request made under the Freedom of Information Act, in order for Merseytravel to best direct your enquiry I would be grateful if you could clarify what type of inspections you are interested in.

For example, Merseytravel conducts various engineering inspections of our assets (such as the Mersey Tunnels), while we also carry out ticket inspections onboard the region's buses. From the explanation provided in your request it would seem that you are more interested in health and safety-related inspections, but it would be of great assistance if you could confirm this.

Clarification Received

Many thanks for your email. Apologies for the lack of clarification in my initial request. I am particularly interested in both Rail and any of the more simpler inspections within these departments. Examples for rail inspections could be inspections of hazards such as broken rails, track irregularities and rail track maintenance. I want to make you aware that I am not concerned with health and safety inspections. I trust the above clarifies your questions. Please let me know if you have any further questions.

Response

Thank you for your email clarifying your request.

Any inspections of the rail infrastructure would be carried out by Network Rail, so we would unfortunately not hold any relevant recorded information.

I would recommend redirecting your request to Network Rail using the details on their website at [this link](#).

I am sorry that we could not be of any further assistance on this occasion.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review, which should be addressed to:

Mrs Julie Watling
Legal, Democratic Services & Procurement Manager
Merseytravel
PO Box 1976
Liverpool
L69 3HN
julie.watling@merseytravel.gov.uk

If you are not content with the result of your internal review, you also have the right to complain to the Information Commissioner, whose address is

The Information Commissioner's Office,
Wycliffe House,
Water Lane,
Wilmslow,
Cheshire SK9 5AF
www.ico.org.uk