

2 May 2025

Dear

**ATISN 24598 – A55 Northop Noise Barriers / Road Noise Reduction Schemes**

**Information requested**

Thank you for your request received on 30 March 2025. You asked for:

1. How many road noise reduction schemes have been carried out in Wales since 12/02/2022
2. What priority rating number does the scheme here in Northop now have?
3. Can you provide any information demonstrating the commitments made in the All-Wales Soundscape and Noise Action plan, published in April 2019 are being fulfilled?
4. Since November 2019 there have been major road resurfacing operations adjacent to our section of A55, why hasn't our section been addressed under the general commitment of "The Welsh Government will look for opportunities to treat priority and proximity areas during routine maintenance activities and road improvement schemes" as stated on the April 2019 Action plan?
5. What is the status of delivery of the noise priority areas identified in the 2019 action plan and where does our section fit within this, with relevant timescales for delivery.

**Our response**

1. WG have carried out 57 Stone Mastic Asphalt (SMA) resurfacing schemes in Wales since 12/02/2022, covering 105.4km across Wales. This type of surfacing has been proven effective in mitigating noise.
2. WG are currently undertaking the noise prioritisation exercise to establish what the top priorities are following the publication of the new Noise and Soundscape Plan 2023-2028. A prioritised list is expected to be completed by the Summer 2025.
3. The Welsh Government developed its 'WG SMA' low noise road surfacing material within this period and as advised above have carried out 57 Stone Mastic Asphalt (SMA) resurfacing schemes across Wales since 12/02/2022, covering 105.4km across Wales. These schemes directly support the Plan's aim to reduce traffic noise in priority areas.

The Welsh Government recently published a new Noise and Soundscape Plan 2023-2028 ([Noise and soundscape plan for Wales 2023 to 2028 | GOV.WALES](#)) and are currently working to deliver our objectives within the new period.

4. Resurfacing of the network is a balance of condition-based information and funding availability. The section close to your property has not yet met the

threshold for resurfacing to take place. However, it remains under review as part of our ongoing prioritisation process.

5. As stated above WG is currently undertaking the noise prioritisation exercise to establish priorities following the publication of the new Noise and Soundscape Plan 2023-2028. This list is expected to be finalised by summer 2025. As such, Northop's current position within the list has not yet been determined, and no specific priority rating is available at this time.

### **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](mailto: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