



**Date issued:** 21 April 2020

**Station and Train announcements**

Thank you for your Freedom of Information (FOI) Act request of 6 April 2020. Your request has been considered in accordance with the requirements of the Freedom of Information Act and our information access policy. I can confirm that we hold the information you require. You asked for:

- the pre-recorded stations names, cut-list announcements; "this train is for", "the next station is" and general announcements regarding safety & smoking (of upward and down inflections (regarding station names)) from the train onboard PA system as used on the 150, 158 and 175 fleet voiced by Ruth Mitchell
- the accompanying software that may be required to access and or play the above files
- all pre-recorded station announcement files; "the next train to depart from platform 2 will be the 18.56 service to Newport" also including train formations, facilities onboard and delay reasons etc. as voiced by Ruth Mitchell (English) and Eryl Jones (Welsh), as well as the general station announcements as voiced by both.
- the accompanying software that may be required to access and or play the above files

However, in accordance with the FOI Act, TfW is not obliged to supply the requested information as it is subject to a statutory exemption to the right of access to information under section 38 – Health and Safety.

The use of this exemption is subject to an assessment of the public interest in relation to the disclosure of the information concerned. TfW recognises the need for openness and transparency within public authorities and the degree of public interest concerning TfW announcements. However, in this instance this is outweighed by the risk that would be done should these announcements be used incorrectly at a station. For example, if a station manager made a factual announcement about a train entering a platform, shortly prior to the train arriving an announcement went out stating that this was changed to another platform via someone using the recordings, it could cause people to rush to another incorrect platform causing a health and safety risk.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact Transport for Wales.

Yours sincerely

Transport for Wales