

Department for **Transport**

Mr Simon Birkett
Founder and Principal Contact
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(request-18042-
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by email

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30th September 2009

Our Ref E0005732

Dear Mr Birkett,

FOI/EIR Request for Vehicle Emissions Information

Thank you for your recent request for information which was received on 15th September and has been handled under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and the Environmental Information Regulations.

I am pleased to be able to tell you that the Department has now published the new road vehicle emission factors that I mentioned in our previous correspondence on this matter, last year, and that they are available on our website at <http://www.dft.gov.uk/pgr/roads/environment/emissions/>. I regret, however, that we have not used these emission factors to calculate the figures that you have requested, and that I am consequently unable to supply that data. Although the data that you have requested does not exist, I believe that you will find that the 'Emissions factor demonstration' spreadsheet at the above URL has most of the functionality required to permit you to produce figures similar to those that you have requested.

I should, perhaps, explain that although it is possible that we will produce the figures that you have requested at some point in the future, and would then be happy to share them with you, it is equally possible that we will never do so. This is because the figures would cost both time and money to produce but would be of very limited value in most of the work that we do. Whilst data of this kind can permit broad comparisons to be made for illustrative purposes, we have access, through our specialist contractors, to quite sophisticated air quality models, and it is these models that we use in assessing the impacts of policy proposals.

I hope that this reply is of use to you. If you are unhappy with the way the Department has handled your request or with the decisions made in relation to your request you may complain within forty working days of the date of this letter by writing to the Department's Information Rights Unit at:

Zone D/04
Ashdown House
Sedlescombe Road North
Hastings

East Sussex TN37 7GA
E-mail: FOI-Advice-Team-DFT@dft.gsi.gov.uk

Please see the attached details of DfT's complaints procedure and your right to complain to the Information Commissioner.

If you have any queries about this letter please contact me. Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

Yours sincerely,

Simon Davies

Your right to complain to DfT and the Information Commissioner

You have the right to complain within forty working days of the date of this letter about the way in which your request for information was handled and/or about the decision not to disclose all or part of the information requested. In addition, a complaint can be made that DfT has not complied with its publication scheme.

Your complaint will be acknowledged, and you will be advised of a target date by which to expect a response. Initially, your complaint will be re-considered by the official who dealt with your request for information. If, after careful consideration, that official decides that his or her decision was correct, your complaint will automatically be referred to a senior independent official who will conduct a further review. You will be advised of the outcome of your complaint and if a decision is taken to disclose information originally withheld this will be done as soon as possible.

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

