



Department for Transport

S Smith

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FOI ADVICE TEAM
INFORMATION & SECURITY DIVISION
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Web Site: www.dft.gov.uk

OUR REF: F0013713

27 June 2016

Dear S Smith,

I am writing regarding your request for information dated 28 May 2016. In that request, you asked for:

1. *Can you please provide a list of the names of each Bulk Personal Dataset held by the Department, and, for each dataset:*
 - a) *the purposes for which the dataset is held,*
 - b) *the size of the dataset (in terms of either terabytes of disc space, or millions of people, or both),*
 - c) *how many copies of the dataset are floating around the department, and the source of that figure (ie whether that figure is as a result of copy control measures, a comprehensive audit, or guesswork)*

If any part of the above is not held for any particular dataset, it is sufficient to say that the information isn't held because you don't know.

2. *Can you please provide the definition of "Bulk Personal Dataset" that was used to reply to that previous request, and the source of that definition? If it defines "Personal data", can you include the source of that definition, or confirm whether that is section 1 of the Data Protection Act.*

The Department does hold information relevant to your request, however, we need more time to consider your request.

The Freedom of Information Act ('the Act') obliges us to respond to requests promptly, in any case no later than 20 working days after receiving your request. However, when a qualified exemption applies to the information, the public interest test needs to be considered. We are not required to comply with your request until such time as is reasonable in the circumstances. We do, of course, aim to make all decisions within 20 working days, including in cases where we need to consider where the public interest lies

in respect of a request for exempt information. Your request, however, raises complex public interest considerations which must be analysed before we can come to a decision on releasing the information.

The exemption that applies to the information you have requested is contained in section 31(1)(a) of the Act, which applies to information that would be likely to prejudice the prevention or detection of crime.

In your case we need to extend our response time limit by 20 working days in order to assess whether the public interest is in withholding the information or disclosing it. Therefore, we plan to let you have a response by 25 July 2016. If there is a need for any further delay we will keep you informed.

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

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 two calendar months of the date of this letter by writing to the Department's FOI Advice Team 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 send or copy any follow-up correspondence relating to this request to the FOI Advice Team to help ensure that it receives prompt attention. Please also remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

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

Yours sincerely,

K Richardson

Your right to complain to DfT and the Information Commissioner

You have the right to complain within two calendar months 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 FOI 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/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