



Mr S Davis

by e-mail

John Sharpe  
Information Strategy Team  
Room 4/52  
100 Parliament Street  
London SW1A 2BQ

**Tel**

**Fax** 020 7147 0666

**Email** john.sharpe@hmrc.gsi.gov.uk

**Date** 26 November 2009  
**Our Ref** FOI 2441/09  
**Your Ref**

[www.hmrc.gov.uk](http://www.hmrc.gov.uk)

Dear Mr Davis

I refer to your request which HMRC received on 17 November 2009 for information on the missing data disks. Using your request as headings HMRC replies are as follows:-

**(1) have the discs been found and if so where/when and by whom?**

The discs have not been found. However, the Metropolitan Police have no reason to believe that the data found its way into the wrong hands at any time and are not aware of any evidence that it has been used for fraudulent purposes or criminal activity.

**(2) if they have not been found whether it is still being looked for and if not when the decision to stop looking was made and by whom?**

HMRC worked closely with the Metropolitan Police on a very comprehensive search programme following the loss. The Police announced, as published in media reports on 15 January 2008, that its investigation to locate the discs was being wound down but not concluded. The HMRC position is the same - we remain vigilant but are not actively carrying out further searches

**(3) whether individuals can make a request to ask if their own data was part of the data lost and what exactly these data items were.**

Dave Hartnett, our Acting Chairman at the time, wrote to all of those whose data had been disclosed. I attach a copy of his letter; the second paragraph describes the information that would have been included.

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Information is available in large print, audio tape and Braille formats.  
Type Talk service prefix number – 18001



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If you are not happy with this reply you may request a review by writing to HMRC FOI Team, Room 4/52, 100 Parliament Street London SW1A 2BQ or by e-mail to [xxx.xxxxxx@xxxx.xxx.xxx.xx](mailto:xxx.xxxxxx@xxxx.xxx.xxx.xx). You must request a review within 2 months of the date of this letter. It would assist our review if you set out which aspects of the reply concern you and why you are dissatisfied.

If you are not content with the outcome of an internal review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner will not usually consider a case unless you have exhausted the internal review procedure provided by HMRC. He can be contacted at The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF.

Yours sincerely

John Sharpe