



Department  
for Transport

Mr Michael Evans  
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Tel: 0300 330 3000

G Webber  
[By email: request-485811-13aa5ef8@whatdotheyknow.com]

Web Site: [www.gov.uk/dft](http://www.gov.uk/dft)

Our Ref: F0016055

15 June 2018

Dear G Webber,

### Freedom of Information Act Request – F0016055

I am writing to provide you with an update on your Freedom of Information (FOI) request of 17 May 2018, in which you requested the following information:

***Please could you provide me with the following information by return email:***

- 1. The date on which the decision was communicated to VTEC - this was presumably in advance of the statement to Parliament.***
- 2. A copy of the letter, document or order by which you communicated the decision to VTEC.***
- 3. Details of any appeal or review process which was offered to VTEC in respect of the decision or any preliminary or draft decision prior to the decision itself. Please note this part of the request relates only to the process and not to whether or not VTEC has made use of it.***

The FOI 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. The exemption which is of potential application to the information you have requested is section 43-(commercial interests).

In your case we need to extend our response time limit by 5 working days in order to complete the public interest test considerations for withholding the information or disclosing it. Therefore, we plan to let you have a response by 22 June 2018.

If you are unhappy with the way the Department for Transport (DfT) 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 DfT's FOI 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 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

Michael Evans  
Senior Correspondence Manager- Passenger Services

## **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