

D Johnson

Email us at: [foi@dvla.gov.uk](mailto:foi@dvla.gov.uk)Website: [www.gov.uk/browse/driving](http://www.gov.uk/browse/driving)

Your Ref:

Our Ref: FOIR7293

Date: 9 January 2018

Dear Mr Johnson

**Freedom of Information Request**

Thank you for your e-mail of 14 December requesting information under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

You asked:

**Please can you provide the total amount of trade licences that are in current use and also provide a breakdown as to the business type that was declared on each application.**

DVLA does not hold numbers of trade licence plates in use in the United Kingdom. However, DVLA does hold information about the number of trade licence plates issued. For calendar years 2017 and 2018, a total of 190,944 trade licence plates were issued.

Although DVLA may hold a breakdown of the business types that were declared on each application, it is not readily available and the cost of providing it is estimated to exceed £600. Under Section 12 of the FOI Act, DVLA is not obliged to comply with a request where the estimated cost of determining, locating, retrieving and/or extracting the information exceeds £600. As it is the DVLA's policy not to respond to requests for information that would exceed the appropriate cost limit, I am afraid that the information you have requested will not be provided to you.

Outside of the FOIA's provisions, I can advise that the following business types are eligible to display trade licence plates.

**A motor dealer**, defined as a person in the business of selling or supplying vehicles

**A motor trader**, defined as

- a manufacturer or repairer of vehicles;
- a dealer whose business consists of collecting and delivering vehicles – and not consist of any other activities except as a manufacturer or repairer of vehicles.
- Hire, leasing and finance companies to collect and deliver vehicles

**A vehicle tester**, defined as a person who tests vehicles belonging to other persons.

Further details can be found by clicking on the following link:

<https://www.gov.uk/trade-licence-plates>

The information which follows concerns the procedures for making any complaint you might have about the reply. Please quote the reference number of this letter in any future communications about it.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'R' followed by a horizontal line and a small flourish.

ppRobert Toft  
Head of Data Sharing Policy & Freedom of Information Team

## **Your right to complain to DVLA and the Information Commissioner**

If you are not happy with the reply to your request, you can ask DVLA to re-consider the response you received by writing (within two calendar months of receiving this response) to either [foi@dvla.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:foi@dvla.gsi.gov.uk) or DVLA Freedom of Information Team, DSPG/FOI, D16, DVLA, Swansea SA6 7JL.

DVLA will acknowledge and consider your request, re-visiting the response provided. This is known as an Internal Review and will be considered by a staff member not involved with the original reply.

If you disagree with the outcome of the Internal Review, you have the option to complain to the Information Commissioner's Office. Further information can be found via: <https://ico.org.uk/concerns/getting/> Alternatively you may wish to write to: Customer Contact, Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow SK9 5AF.