

XXXX

XXXX  
Department for Transport  
XXXX Great Minster House  
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London SW1P 4DR

Direct Line: +44(0) 20 7944 XXXX

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

Our Ref: E0009129

06 September 2012

Dear XXXX

## **Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIR) Case**

Thank you for your information request XXXXX. Your request for information was as follows:

*"In 2001/2 a rail link was opened between Bristol and Portbury utilising part of the former Bristol to Portishead railway line running through the Avon Gorge.*

*Please could you release, in electronic form via XXXXX, any recorded information which you hold relating to the ecological impact of (re)opening this line.*

*Please include:*

- a) any ecological survey information*
- b) any environmental impact assessment*
- c) any information relating to ecological compensation or mitigation*
- d) any management proposals or plans*
- e) any information relating to plans for monitoring the impact during and since the opening of the line, and the results of this monitoring*

*If you are aware of any other bodies which may hold information on this subject, please could you let me know."*

Your request has been considered under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004.

I am writing to confirm that the Department has now completed its search for the information.

A copy of the information is enclosed in the format you requested.

As part of your request you asked us to notify you of other bodies which might hold relevant information. The most likely public body to have information on this subject is North Somerset Council and you can contact them via:

<http://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/Your+Council/Freedom+of+information/>

North Somerset Council  
Town Hall  
Walliscote Grove Road  
Weston-super-Mare BS23 1UJ

Tel 01934 888 888

Of course, other non-public bodies such as Network Rail and the Bristol Port Company may also hold relevant information but they are not covered by these regulations so disclosure would be entirely at their discretion

The information supplied to you continues to be protected by the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988. You are free to use it for your own purposes, including for private study and non-commercial research, and for any other purpose authorised by an exception in current copyright law. Documents (except photographs) can be also used in the UK without requiring permission for the purposes of news reporting. Any other re-use, for example commercial publication, would require the permission of the copyright holder.

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In keeping with the spirit and effect of the Environmental Information Regulations 2004, all information is assumed to be releasable to the public unless exempt. The Department will, therefore, be simultaneously releasing to the public the information you requested, together with any related information that will provide a key to its wider context.

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 40 working days of the date of this letter by writing to the Department's Information Rights Unit at:

Zone D/01  
Ashdown House

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

Please see 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,

xxxx  
Department for Transport  
xxxx Great Minster House  
33 Horseferry Road  
London SW1P 4DR  
xxxx@dft.gsi.gov.uk  
Tel. 020 7944 xxxx

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

You have the right to complain within 40 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/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