<u>Annex A</u> our ref : IA/00038/12

1) The number of car, bike, lorry and bus theory tests conducted at Stoke on Trent in 2011 where the candidate had a voiceover or translator along with the pass rate. Please provide the information for car, bike, lorry and bus separately and broken down by each voiceover language or translator language

We do hold the information you have requested. At Annex B, you can find the number of car, bike, lorry and bus theory tests conducted at Stoke on Trent in 2011 where the candidate had a voiceover along with the pass rate. We have provided some of the information broken down by voiceover language but amalgamated the remainder. The amalgamated information is labelled as 'other' and gives a list of the voiceover languages in which the theory test may have been conducted.

To provide all of the information requested broken down by each voiceover language used could be linked to an individual and lead to their identification. This information would be classed as personal data. Personal data is exempt from release under section 40 (2) of the Freedom of Information Act, a copy of which is attached at Annex C.

Candidates are also entitled to have a translator-assisted theory test, which can only be conducted at certain test centres. Stoke on Trent is not one of these test centres. Therefore, there were no translator-assisted theory tests conducted at Stoke on Trent in 2011.

Please note that:

- we provide the voiceover in 21 languages for the car and bike theory test only. We provide only the English and Welsh voiceover for the other categories of test.
- a candidate doesn't need to have a voiceover on test; candidates sitting their test in English or Welsh can do so by reading the text on screen. Some candidates, however, opt to have the English or Welsh voiceover as well as the onscreen instructions/test.
- you can find further information online about the theory test voiceovers and translators at http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/Motoring/LearnerAndNewDrivers/TheoryTest/DG_4022538.
- you can find a list of translator-supported theory test centres on the reverse of the theory test application form, which can be found online at http://www.direct.gov.uk/prod_consum_dg/groups/dg_digitalassets/@dg/@en/@motor/documents/digitalasset/dg_4015378.pdf
- 2) The number of car, bike, lorry and bus practical tests conducted at each of the following test centres in 2011 where the candidate had an interpreter on test along with the pass rate. Please provide the information for car, bike, lorry and bus separately and for each test centre.

Newcastle-under-Lyme Stafford Stoke on Trent (Cobridge) Swynnerton In the table below, you can find the number of car practical test conducted in 2011 with an interpreter and the pass rate at each of the test centres you have requested information for.

Test centre	Number of car practical tests conducted with an interpreter in 2011	Pass rate
Newcastle-under-Lyme	39	17.9%
Stafford	6	16.7%
Stoke on Trent (Cobridge)	106	33.0%

Please note that of the category of tests that you have requested:

- Newcastle-under-Lyme conducts car and motorcycle module two tests; there were no motorcycle module two tests conducted with an interpreter in 2011
- Stafford and Stoke on Trent (Cobridge) conduct car practical tests only
- Swynnerton conducts lorry and bus tests only; there were no lorry or bus tests conducted with an interpreter at Swynnerton in 2011.

You can find more information about the practical test online about interpreters at the practical test at

http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/Motoring/LearnerAndNewDrivers/PracticalTest/DG_4022542.

3) Please could you tell me the amount DSA has spent on interpreters to help people who can't speak English too well to take their car, bike, lorry or bus theory and practical test in 2011 at Stoke on Trent (theory and practical test centres), Newcastle-under-Lyme, Stafford, Stoke on Trent (Cobridge) and Swynnerton

We have not introduced any new voiceovers in to the theory test in the last five financial years. Therefore we haven't incurred any costs for introducing a voiceover in any of the last five years.

We do from time-to-time incur costs on translation charges for the theory test, for example when refreshing the theory test question bank. We did not, however, incur any costs for this in 2011.

We do not incur any cost for providing interpreters at the car practical test. It is the candidate's responsibility to bring their own interpreter to their practical test and pay any fees incurred. You can find more information online at http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/Motoring/LearnerAndNewDrivers/PracticalTest/DG_4022542

Please note that we operate as a trading fund and are required to recover full costs of the services provided. As such, the costs of delivering tests are funded from the test fees for those tests.

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