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e-mail XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

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Department for Transport
XXXX Great Minster House
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LONDON
SW1P 4DR
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GTN No: 3533 XXXX

Web Site: www.dft.gov.uk

Our Ref: BAT 7/4/03 & F0008844

11 May 2012

Dear XXXXXXXXXXXX,

Taxis - Freedom of Information Act 2000

Thank you for your e-mail dated 23 April requesting information about taxis and private hire vehicles.

You requested the following information:

- How many sexual offences were committed in licensed Taxis for the period 1/1/2010 to 31/12/2011?
- How many sexual offences were committed in licensed Private hire vehicles for the period 1/1/2010 to 31/12/2011?
- How many of these offences were committed in vehicles fitted with privacy glass?

Your request has been considered under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

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

The Department does not collect statistics of this nature. The only information which the Department holds in relation to your enquiry is the information contained in the Impact Assessment which the Law Commission published on 10 May as part of its consultation exercise.

For ease of reference, I am inserting it in this letter:

“Transport for London reported 111 cab-related sexual offences in 2010 alone and Greater Manchester Police recorded 98 offences of rape or sexual assault linked to taxis and private hire vehicles in the same period.”

In keeping with the spirit and effect of the Freedom of Information Act, all information is assumed to be releasable to the public unless exempt. A copy of this response and the information provided may now be published on our website 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 two calendar months 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,

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

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