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Department for Transport
Great Minster House
4/18 Rail Commercial Contracts
76 Marsham Street
London
SW1P 4DR

Email: XXXXXX

Web Site: www.dft.gov.uk

Our FOI Request Ref: F0007965

24 August 2011

Dear XXXX,

Freedom of Information Act Request – F0007965

I refer to your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 for information which was submitted on 6th August 2011.

Following the completion of the negotiations with London Midland, First Great Western and Northern Rail, the Department can now confirm the allocation of the remaining 26 London Midland Class 150 carriages that will become available when the Class 172 carriages arrive from Bombardier.

1) London Midland (LM):

Instead of releasing all the existing Class 150 carriages, an agreement has been reached for LM to retain 6 of them until the end of the franchise to address crowding in the West Midlands.

In addition, First Great Western will take on the head lease of the 2 x Class 153s which they are currently sub-leasing from LM.

2) Northern Rail:

Northern Rail will receive 8 x Class 150 carriages from LM and 14 x Class 142 carriages which are currently subleased by First Great Western from Northern Rail. These carriages will provide additional capacity into Sheffield, Manchester, Leeds, Liverpool and Newcastle and are expected to be in service from December 2011.

3) First Great Western

4 x Class 150s and 2 x Class 153s cascaded from LM will provide additional capacity into Bristol from December 2011.

4) Remaining Class 150s:

There are 8 x Class 150 carriages which will become surplus in LM which are currently not intended to be used. These trains are non-standard units that may subsequently be sought by another TOC, PTE or local authority for additional services.

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. The Department will, therefore, be releasing to the public the information you requested.

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/04
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,

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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