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Our Ref: GT51/2/2

12 December 2011

Dear XXXXXXXX

**FOI Request: F0008340**

Thank you for your letter of 16 November requesting information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in relation to Local Transport Note LTN 1/11 *Shared Space*.

Answering your questions in order:

1 The range of flows was from 0 to 170 vehicles per 15 minutes, or 0-680 vehicles per hour (vph). Please see figure 3.1 of research report entitled "Shared Space: Operational Assessment." The range of mean speeds was from 7mph to 25mph. Please see Figure 3.2 of the same report. You can find this report and all the other DfT-commissioned shared space research on the DfT website at:  
<http://www.dft.gov.uk/publications/ltm-01-11>

2 In paragraph 2.14, we were not referring to a specific list but we can offer you the following examples of shared spaces sites which have been reported to operate successfully at flows greater than 100 vph:

- Ashford in Kent – 900 vph
- The Rijksstraatweg in Haren, near Groningen, up to 12,000 vehicles per day (approximately 1200 vph peak).
- Laweiplein in Drachten, around 22,000 vehicles a day (approximately 1200 vph peak).
- The Copenhagen suburb of Lyngby, around 14,000 vehicles per day (approximately 1400 vph peak)
- The Skvallertorget in Norrköping in Sweden, around 13,000 vehicles per day (approximately 1300 vph peak)

3        You also asked about use of the term “shared space” in schemes with higher traffic flows. A street can be designed as shared space but this does not mean it will be fully shared at all times. The level of sharing will vary with flow and even busy conventional roads could experience some degree of sharing. It is up to councils to decide whether or not they want to use shared space on their local roads. Our guidance is intended to help those authorities who want to use shared space to put in place well-designed schemes which take into account the needs of the whole community. The guidance clearly sets out that shared space is a design approach only and that there is no such thing as a definitive shared space design.

Yours sincerely

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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](mailto:FOI-Advice-Team-DFT@dft.gsi.gov.uk)

Please find enclosed 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.