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By email to  
XXXXXXX

XXXXXX  
XXXXXX

**Department for Transport**  
Great Minster House  
76 Marsham Street  
London  
SW1P 4DR

Email: XXXXX@dft.gsi.gov.uk

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

Our FOI Request Ref: F0007261

24 January 2011

Dear XXXX

**Freedom of Information Act Request – F0007261**

I am writing to confirm that the Department has now completed its search for the information which you requested on 13 January 2011.

London Midland will be introducing 69 Class 172 carriages into their franchise. This deployment will replace 72 Class 150 carriages. The future of these carriages currently splits into three categories as follows:

- 1) Of the 72 Class 150 carriages, 28 are now contracted to be used by Northern Trains.

The arrival of the 28 carriages in Northern Trains will then lead to the following subsequent cascades:

8 x Class 150 carriages will enable 8 x Class 156 carriages to cascade from Northern Trains to East Midlands Trains (EMT) which will be used by EMT to internally cascade more Class 158 units onto their Norwich - Nottingham - Liverpool services.

12 x Class 150 carriages will enable 15 x Class 180 carriages currently sub-leased by Northern Trains from East Coast to be returned to East Coast.

The remaining 8 x Class 150 carriages provide additional capacity for Northern Trains.

- 2) Of the 72 Class 150 carriages, 18 are contracted to be used by First Great Western (FGW).

The arrival of the 18 carriages in FGW will then lead to the following subsequent cascades:

14 x Class 150 carriages will enable 14 x Class 142 carriages currently sub-leased by FGW from Northern Trains to be returned to Northern Trains. Subject to successfully concluding a commercial agreement that is affordable and value for money, these 14 Class 142 carriages will be used to provide additional capacity for Northern Trains.

4 x Class 150 carriages will enable the current arrangement whereby FGW hires 4 x Class 150 carriages from Arriva Trains Wales (ATW) to cease.

- 3) Of the 72 Class 150 carriages, 26 of them are currently yet to be contracted to be used by any Train Operating Company (TOC).

The Department is currently engaged in discussions with three TOCs (London Midland, Northern Trains and First Great Western) about the possible use of these trains.

Because their future use will be subject to successfully concluding commercial agreements that are affordable and value for money, it is not currently possible to say how many of these carriages will be used in future, or by which franchise. It is planned that any such agreements will be concluded and announced later this year.

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](mailto: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,

XXXXX  
XXXXX

### **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