

XX  
By email to  
XX

XX  
XX

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

Email: XX

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

Our FOI Request Ref: F0007890

10 August 2011

Dear XX,

### **Freedom of Information Act Request – F0007890**

I refer to your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 for information which was submitted on 14<sup>th</sup> July 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 London Midland Class 150 trains that will become available when the 69 Class 172 carriages arrive from Bombardier.

#### 1) London Midland (LM):

Instead of releasing all the existing Class 150 trains, 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, FGW 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 36 Class 150 carriages which will lead to the following cascades:

8 x Class 150 carriages will enable 8 x Class 156 carriages to cascade from Northern Rail 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, which are currently sub-leased by Northern Rail from East Coast, to be returned to East Coast.

The remaining 16 x Class 150 carriages will provide additional capacity for Northern Rail.

In addition, Northern Rail will release the Class 153 unit which they are currently sub-leasing from LM.

#### 3) First Great Western (FGW)

First Great Western will receive 22 x Class 150s and 2 Class 153s from LM. The arrival of these carriages will lead to the following cascades:

14 x Class 150 carriages will enable 14 x Class 142 carriages which are currently sub-leased by FGW from Northern Rail to be returned to Northern Rail in December 2011. These 14 x Class 142 carriages will be used to provide additional capacity for Northern Rail.

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.

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

#### 4) Remaining Class 150s:

There are 8 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.

#### 5) Future use of the Class 180s:

The Department is currently engaged in discussions with First Great Western about the future use of the Class 180s. These negotiations are subject to affordability and value for money. It is not currently possible to say how many of the Class 180s will be used in the future. An announcement is expected to be made later this year if these discussions are successful.

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,

XXX

### **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