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From: XXXXXXXXXXXX
Department for Transport
Great Minster House
76 Marsham Street
London
SW1P 4DR

DIRECT LINE: XXXXXXXX
XXXXXXXX@dft.gsi.gov.uk

7 September 2011

Dear XXXXXX

Ref: F0007950 Freedom of Information Request - Trade Unions

Further to my e-mail of 5 September 2011, I am writing to confirm that the Department has now completed its search for the information which you requested on 2 August 2011. I would like to apologise for the slight delay in providing you with the information within the normal time-scale.

You asked for:

1. The total amount of money paid to all trade unions for financial periods a) 2009 -10 and b) 2010 -11 broken down by trade union.
2. For each trade union for which it applies, please provide the number of Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) staff working for the union (this is sometimes called 'Trade Union facility time') in a) 2009-10 and b) 2010-11

A copy of the information is below at Annex A.

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/04
Ashdown House

Sedlescombe Road North
Hastings
East Sussex TN37 7GA
E-mail: FOI-Advice-Team-DFT@dft.gsi.gov.uk

Please see details below (Annex B) 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

XXXXXXXXXX

1. The total amount of money paid to all trade unions for financial periods a) 2009 -10 and b) 2010 -11 broken down by trade union.

There have been no payments made by the Department for Transport or its Executive Agencies to any Trades Union during the financial years 2009-10 or 2010-11.

2. For each trade union for which it applies, please provide the number of Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) staff working for the union (this is sometimes called 'Trade Union facility time') in a) 2009-10 and b) 2010-11.

The Department for Transport, including its seven Executive Agencies, permits elected representatives of officially recognised Trade Unions to have an annual allocation of paid time off from their official duties (facility time), in order to undertake their role as trade union officers. The table below notes the number of such staff expressed as FTEs by Department/Agency and Trade Union for the financial years 2009-10 and 2010-11.

	2009 -10					2010 -11				
Dept/Agency	PCS	Prospect	FDA	Unite	Total	PCS	Prospect	FDA	Unite	Total
DfT (c)	3.33	0.73	0.00	0.00	4.06	3.18	0.73	0.00	0.00	3.91
DSA	6.80	0.00	0.00	0.00	6.80	6.60	0.00	0.00	0.00	6.60
DVLA	13.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	13.00	13.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	13.00
GCDA	0.05	0.04	0.00	0.60	0.69	0.05	0.04	0.00	0.60	0.69
HA	3.42	4.03	0.00	0.00	7.45	3.64	4.00	0.00	0.00	7.64
MCA	0.89	0.47	0.00	0.00	1.36	1.08	0.34	0.00	0.00	1.42
VCA	0.02	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.02
VOSA	3.81	3.36	0.00	0.82	7.99	3.37	2.96	0.00	0.55	6.88
Totals	31.32	8.65	0.00	1.42	41.38	30.93	8.08	0.00	1.15	40.16

Note: 1. The FTEs are rounded to two decimal places

2. FDA have not requested facility time for the years 2009-10/2010-11

Annex B

Your right to complain to Department for Transport 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