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From: xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx
xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx
Department for Transport
xxxx Great Minster House
33 Horseferry Road
SW1P 4DR

DIRECT LINE: xxxxxxxxxxxxxxx
xxxxxxxxxxxx@dft.gsi.gov.uk

26 March 2012

Dear xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

Ref: Freedom of Information Request – Public Sector Strike

Thank you for your information request of 29 February 2012. You requested the following information:

Reports, meeting minutes and documents relating to the public sector strike on 30 November 2011.

In particular information concerning the number of employees who did not work that day, on picket activity and any information concerning the impact of the strike on the working of the Department.

Your request has been considered under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

I am writing to confirm that the Department has now completed its search for the information. This information is in respect of the Department for Transport (Central) and its Executive Agencies.

The Department's industrial action report which was produced on 30th November 2011 promulgates the extent to which the Department was affected by the action. We are able to provide the information that you requested in respect of employees who were absent due to strike action on that day; on picket activity; and the impact of the strike on the working of the Department. The information is contained in Annex A below.

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/01
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 the 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

Annex A

1. Number of employees who were absent from work due to strike action

Organisation	Total Staff	Working	On strike	% of staff on strike
Department for Transport (Central)	1710	1209	336	19.65
Driving Standards Agency	2583	1408	816	31.59
Driver & Vehicle Licensing Agency	6369	1995	3124	49.06
Government Car & Despatch Agency	178	0	60	33.71
Highways Agency	3539	2429	668	18.88
Maritime & Coastguard Agency	1124	923	87	7.74
Vehicle Certification Agency	152	103	26	17.11
Vehicle & Operator Services Agency	2283	1502	573	25.10
Totals	17938	9569	5690	31.72

2. Picket Activity

Picketing took place at Department of Transport sites on 30 November. All picketing activity was peaceful and in line with the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills Code of Practice on picketing.

3. Impact of the strike action on the working of the Department

Organisation	Impact
Department for Transport (Central)	Services were largely unaffected.
Driving Standards Agency	Some services were contracted.
Driver & Vehicle Licensing Agency	Some services were severely disrupted and some were non-operational.
Government Car & Despatch Agency	Some services were contracted.
Highways Agency	Some services were contracted but all essential duties were covered.
Maritime & Coastguard Agency	Services were largely unaffected.
Vehicle Certification Agency	Services were largely unaffected.
Vehicle & Operator Services Agency	Services were largely unaffected.