

by email to:

Website: www.dft.gov.uk

XXXX
XXXX

Our Ref: F0008483

20 January 2012

Dear XXXXX,

Freedom of Information Request

I refer to your request for information dated 5 January 2012. I have dealt with it under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Your request was as follows:

The number of additional employees employed in your press office/media department since 1 January 2011 who were hired specifically to work, either in totality or as one part of their duties, on the London Olympics. This may also include positions that are currently, or due to be, advertised ahead of the Games in July. For each employee, please state their job title, the month they were hired, and official salary band (eg. press officer, salary between £25-34k).

At the time of writing no additional employees have been specifically employed by DfT (Central or its Agencies) press offices or media departments to work on the London Olympics either as a whole or as part of their duties.

DfT (Central) are however in the process of recruiting four additional fixed term Information Officers (ie junior press officers) to cover the period of the Olympic and Paralympic Games, and the lead-up to them. These extra staff will be in post for around six months, from the end of March/beginning of April to shortly after the Games are completed in September.

The salary band for these staff is expected to be at DfT Pay Band 4 – the annual salary for this pay band is between £30,267 and £34,710 – but since the period of their appointment will be around six months their actual earnings will be around half of the pay band amounts.

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 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 XXXXXXXXXX in our press office on XXXXXXXX. Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

Yours sincerely,

XXXXXXX

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