

Department for **Transport**

XXXX XXXX
XXXX@XXXX

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

Web Site: www.dft.gov.uk
Email: XXXX.XXXX@dft.gsi.gov.uk
Tel: 0207 xxxxx

Our Reference: FOIP0007562
Date: 12th April, 2011

Dear XXXX XXXX,

I refer to your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 for information about the Department for Transport's response to Network Rail regarding the Stafford area improvements at Norton Bridge Railway Junction, Staffordshire and the three proposed option alignments.

I am writing to advise you that following a search of our paper and electronic records I have established that the information you requested is not held by this Department. Network Rail has not written to us on their options for this scheme and so we have not responded.

Whilst it is the role of Government to provide strategic direction to the railway, and to procure rail services and projects that only it can specify, responsibility for day-to-day delivery of railway services rests with the industry. With regard to the Stafford area improvements at Norton Bridge Railway Junction, it is up to Network Rail to design the most effective solution which meets the agreed output specification for the West Coast Main Line. Further information about Network Rail's handling of the upgrade can be located at <http://www.networkrail.co.uk/aspx/11026.aspx>, and any queries about the upgrade should be addressed to them.

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 do not hesitate to 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 [DfT/Agency] 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