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Regulatory Services & Information
Department for Transport
Great Minster House
76 Marsham Street
London
SW1P 4DR
Direct Line:
Fax:
GTN No:

Web Site: www.dft.gov.uk

Our Ref: F0007765

29 June 2011

Dear XXXXX,

I am writing to confirm that the Department has now completed its search for the information which you requested on 15 June, on what scientific and other measureable evidence there is that bus lanes have a positive effect.

The Department commissioned extensive research into the performance of bus priority measures, including bus lanes, during their development as a traffic management measure. Much of this was carried out by the Transport Research Laboratory (TRL), and the reports are available to purchase on the TRL website at www.trl.co.uk. Searching for 'bus priority' or 'bus lanes' will bring up a list of research reports - some of the more relevant report titles are listed below:

- Priority to buses as part of traffic management (1972)
- With-flow bus lanes: economic justification using a theoretical model (1977)
- Evaluation of bus lanes (1988)
- Performance of bus priority measures in Shepherd's Bush (1995)
- A comparative assessment of major bus priority schemes in Great Britain (1999)

More recently, the Department produced the Bus Priority Resource Pack in 2004. This includes case studies of various priority measures, including bus lanes. It is available on the Department's website at:

<http://www2.dft.gov.uk/pgr/regional/buses/bpf/busprioritythewayahead12>

Advice for local authorities on providing bus priority measures is also available in Local Transport Note 1/97: Keeping Buses Moving, available from the DfT website at:

<http://www2.dft.gov.uk/pgr/roads/tpm/ltnotes>

Local authorities are responsible for installing bus lanes on their road networks. As part of the evaluation process they may carry out their own assessment of individual schemes' performance, but they are not obliged to share those assessments with the Department.

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 me. Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

Yours sincerely

XXXXXXXXXX

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