



Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency

Telephone
Fax
Minicom
Email
Website www.direct.gov.uk/motoring

Your Ref
Our Ref

Date:

Dear

Freedom of Information

Your email of 29 April asked to see the policy and procedures concerning the release of personal information held by this Agency, to third parties. I am replying under the procedures of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

As mentioned when she spoke to you on Friday 5 May, the information you sought is not available as it is not held in document form. The policy and procedures have been developed over time since the 1960s when the requirement to demonstrate "reasonable cause" was introduced.

During that conversation, you clarified that the information you require is not necessarily documentation: that what you require to inform your research is information about the Agency's policy and procedures on the release of information. referred to your recent enquiry to David Davies MP and you agreed that the procedural source of the information was not an issue. You added however that you would also want to know what the procedure was for deciding policy on the hoof if it were not documented.

If you have not already received it, you will shortly have a response from David Davies MP to your enquiry to him of 31 March 2006, providing the information sought as clarified.

Your original request mentioned the London Congestion Charging scheme. Information is released to Transport for London, to enforce 'charging schemes' as prescribed in the Transport Act 2000. Various other government departments or law enforcement agencies have statutory powers to obtain information from DVLA. Examples include HM Revenue and Customs for tax related purposes, under the Taxes Management Act and the Child Support Agency for tracing absent parents under the Child Support Regulations.

In response to your added point on the procedure for deciding policy on the hoof, the Department for Transport recently undertook a review of current arrangements for release of



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Department for
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vehicle keeper information under Regulation 27(1)(e) of the Road Vehicles (Registration and Licensing) Regulations 2002. This included public consultation seeking views on the release of information from the vehicle register, including who should have access and for what purpose. Although the consultation period ended on 31 March, the consultation document is still available on the Department for Transport's web site at www.dft.gov.uk/stellent/groups/dft_roads/documents/page/dft_roads_611202.hcsp.

This should provide guidance on the current policy on the release of information. Requests for information may be received which are not covered in the appendix of the document. In this case, the Agency would have to make a decision as to whether it met the 'reasonable cause' criteria, considering circumstances that have previously been judged to meet the criteria and those that have not.

If you wish to view the full text of the Regulations, it is available on the Office for Public Section Information web site at www.opsi.gov.uk/si/si2002/20022742.htm.

If you are unhappy with the decisions made by this Agency in relation to your request, you may ask for an internal review. If you wish to complain, you should write to

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

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact Please remember to quote the reference above in any future communications.

Yours sincerely