



## Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency

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Your Ref  
Our Ref FOIR 998/08

Date: 24 April 2008

### Freedom of Information

Thank you for your e-Mail of 1 April 2008 in which you made a request for information under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

In answer to your request:

*“Can you supply a list of all current trade plate licence holders”*

I can confirm that the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency (DVLA) does hold information regarding Trade plate holders, however we have decided that this information cannot be released to you.

When deciding whether information can be released under the terms of FOIA we have to take into consideration that the information is then placed in the public domain.

There are in excess of 50,000 trade plate holders in the UK. Some of the information you have requested relates to Sole Traders and Partnerships. This information is exempt under section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act as it is personal information relating to individuals and its public disclosure would contravene the data protection principles. The Agency recognises the information could be used for direct marketing purposes. In the circumstances, it would be unfair to the individual(s) concerned to publicly disclose their personal information contrary to the first and sixth data protection principles.

In order to establish which Trade Plate Holders could be released without breaching the Data Protection Act, DVLA would need to create a new data set.

We would have to check each individual record and a member of staff would need to be employed in carrying out this work. If each check took 1 minute this would take in excess



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of 85 days. DVLA has no obligation under Section 12 of the FOIA to supply information, which would cost more than £600 or 3.5 days to collate.

The information supplied to you continues to be protected by the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988. You are free to use it for your own purposes, including any non-commercial research you are doing and for the purposes of news reporting. Any other re-use, for example commercial publication, would require the permission of the copyright holder.

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<http://www.opsi.gov.uk/click-use/index.htm>.

If you are unhappy with the way the Agency has handled your request, you may ask for an internal review.

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. Further guidance of DfT complaints procedures are detailed in **Annex A**.

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact me, quoting the above reference in any future communications.

Yours sincerely