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Date: 11<sup>th</sup> August 2006  
Our Ref: **F0000423**

Dear

## **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000**

I refer to your e-mail of 17<sup>th</sup> and my subsequent acknowledgement of 24<sup>th</sup> July 2006 concerning various statistics relating to the Commercial Vehicle Market. I will deal with the points raised in the same order as your e-mail.

Q1) What is the current number of "O licences in the UK

A1) There are 99889 Heavy Goods Vehicle and 8723 Public Service Vehicle operator licences at the present time. It must be understood that this is a "snapshot" view on a specific date, and can and does change daily.

Q2 & 3) Total number of vehicles (HGV, PSV and Trailers) and average fleet size

A2 & 3) There are 368200 HGV's specified on the 99889 mentioned above, giving an average fleet size of about 3.68 vehicles per licence.

PSV Operator Licences are not vehicle specific, and we do not have a business need to know the total number of PSV's. I can however confirm that there are 88745 PSV O/Licence discs in issue at the present time, giving an average fleet size of about 8.29 vehicles per licence.

This information is published within the Traffic Commissioners Annual Report which can be found by using the following URL

[http://www.dft.gov.uk/stellent/groups/dft\\_roads/documents/page/dft\\_roads\\_611621.pdf](http://www.dft.gov.uk/stellent/groups/dft_roads/documents/page/dft_roads_611621.pdf)

VOSA does not keep any statistics regarding the numbers of trailers.

Q4) Number of businesses with fleets of 500 or over (large) and between 100 and 499 (medium)

A4) There are 10 HGV and 12 PSV fleets of 500 or more, whilst there are 269 HGV and 85 PSV fleets between 100 and 499 vehicles

The figures above are calculated on operator licences held in an individual licensing area such as the North West. It is likely that the total vehicle fleet authorised to these operators is higher than 499 vehicles. The licences held in several licensing areas such as the North West, North East, Scotland & Wales when totalled may give a fleet in excess of this figure.

Please find below the URL for the anonymous search facility of the VOSA website:  
[http://www.tan.gov.uk/tanen/VOSA\\_AnonymousOperatorSearch\\_New.asp](http://www.tan.gov.uk/tanen/VOSA_AnonymousOperatorSearch_New.asp)

It is possible for a search to be undertaken on this website using the criteria of an operator name and the % at either end of the one word entry. Which may assist in your query of identifying large fleet operators.

If you have any queries about the information you have received, please contact me, and I will be happy to assist you. My contact details are given at the head of this letter.

If you are unhappy with the information supplied, you may ask for an internal review. To request an internal review, please write to:

VOSA Corporate Office,  
Berkeley House,  
Croydon Street,  
Bristol,  
BS5 0DA

or email [vosa.corporateoffice@vosa.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:vosa.corporateoffice@vosa.gsi.gov.uk)

giving the reasons for your dissatisfaction. It will help us if you quote the reference number for your case.

If you do not agree with the outcome of the internal review, you may lodge an appeal with the Information Commissioner ([www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk](http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk)). The Information Commissioner is an independent official appointed by the Crown to oversee the Data Protection Act 1998, the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and the Environmental Information Regulations 2004.

The Information Commissioner can consider complaints about any aspect of the way in which requests for information have been handled. Please note: the Information Commissioner would be unlikely to consider your complaint if you have not first requested an internal review.

You can write to the Information Commissioner at:

The Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House,  
Water Lane,  
Wilmslow,  
Cheshire  
SK9 5AF

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact us, quoting reference **F0000438**.

Yours sincerely

VOSA Information Access