

From: **Information Access**
inform@vosa.gov.uk

Information Access Team
 Berkeley House
 Croydon Street
 Bristol
 BS5 0DA

Tel: 0300 123 9000
 Fax: 0117 954 2546

Our ref: **F0001991**

Date: 21st July 2009

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000

I refer to your e-mail of 24th June 2009. We have dealt with this under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

You asked about the impact of Heavy Goods Vehicles (HGVs) on the Kent roads. As discussed, DfT Central and the Highways Agency may also be in a position to provide you with some relevant information. Our records show the following statistics for VOSA's area 14 for the 12 month period between 01/07/2008 and 30/06/2009.

Vehicle Type	Encounters (weighings)	Prohibitions	Prohibition Rate
HGV	4,270	1,305	30.56%
Vehicle Type	Encounters (TE)	Prohibitions	Prohibition Rate
HGV	16,655	3,533	21.21%
Vehicle Type	Encounters (VE)	Prohibitions	Prohibition Rate
HGV	13,785	6,490	47.08%
Trailer	12,691	6,067	47.81%
Vehicle Type	Overload Prohibitions	Additional Prohibition Issued	% Non Compliant in Another Area
HGV	1,305	48	3.68

To clarify, when a vehicle is encountered at a roadside check three types of checks may take place:

1. A weight check, carried out to detect overloading
2. A roadworthiness check, carried out on the vehicle by a Vehicle Examiner (VE)

3. A Traffic Examiner (TE) check on the driver's tachograph records to detect drivers' hours offences.

The above statistics give figures for all three of these check types and the resulting prohibitions. VOSA's area 14 covers the Kent area. A VOSA location map is attached to show the exact geographical boundaries of this area. In addition, please see the attached safety leaflet on the dangers of overloading.

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact us, quoting reference **F0001993**.

If you are unhappy with the response provided, 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

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). 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

Yours sincerely

VOSA Information Access