

# Department for **Transport**

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Department for Transport  
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33 Horseferry Road  
London SW1P 4DR

Direct Line: XXXXX  
E-mail: XXXXXXXX

Web Site: [www.dft.gov.uk](http://www.dft.gov.uk)

Our Ref: F0008947

31 May 2012

Dear XXXXXXXX,

Thank you for your request for information of 22 May about subsidies for National Rail, Manchester Metrolink and London Underground and passenger numbers for each of these services.

Under section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act, the Department is not required to provide information which is already reasonably accessible to you. Details of where you can obtain this information are given below.

- **The total level of operating subsidy granted to the National Rail system for the complete years of 2011, 2010, and 2009.**

Some of the information is available in the Transparency section of the Department's website, under 'Department monthly spend over £500 in value'.

<http://www.dft.gov.uk/publications/dft-monthly-spending/>

This shows net payments to train operators in each four-week period. It should be noted that no figure is shown if any payments by the train operator to the Department exceeded any subsidy paid by the Department to the train operator.

The Office of Rail Regulation ('ORR') publishes, as part of its National Rail Trends data, a summary of Government support for the rail industry, which includes the subsidy/premium payment for each train operator on an annual basis.

<http://www.rail-reg.gov.uk/upload/pdf/nrt-government-support.pdf>

- **The total number of passenger journeys on the National Rail system for each corresponding year.**

Passenger journey numbers can be found on the ORR data portal:

<http://dataportal.orr.gov.uk/displayreport/report/html/22c71959-3f97-405f-8342-e4981745d08b>

- **The total level of operating subsidy you granted to London Underground for the same three years.**
- **The total number of passenger journeys on the London Underground network for each of the corresponding three years.**

The Government provides an un-ringfenced grant to Transport for London ('DfT') under Section 101 of the Greater London Authority Act 1999, for the purposes of transport in the capital. There is no specific grant paid to subsidise the operations of London Underground on its own. TfL determine their annual budget each year according to spending priorities in line with the Mayor's Transport Strategy.

Information on passenger journeys and summary financial data, including the DfT grant, is publicly available via the TfL website. Previous years' annual report and accounts can be found at:

<http://www.tfl.gov.uk/corporate/about-tfl/investorrelations/1458.aspx>

TfL also submits quarterly operational and financial reports to the TfL Board, which can be found online alongside other Board papers, at:

<http://www.tfl.gov.uk/corporate/about-tfl/boardandchiefexecutives/papers/1438.aspx>

- **The total level of government support granted to Greater Manchester Metrolink tram system for the same three years**

The Department does not provide any subsidy to the Manchester Metrolink system.

- **The total number of passenger journeys for each of the three corresponding year**

DfT publishes passenger journey figures for Metrolink as part of our annual light rail statistics, and they are in the table available here:

<http://assets.dft.gov.uk/statistics/tables/lrt0101.xls>

- **I am currently under the belief that Manchester Metrolink receives no government support - is this correct?**

Yes.

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](mailto: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,

**XXXXXXXXXXXX**  
XXXXXXXXXXXXXX

## **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