



Vehicle & Operator Services Agency

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

Information Access Team
Berkeley House
Croydon Street
Bristol
BS5 0DA

BY E-MAIL

Tel: 0300 123 9000

Your ref:
Our ref: **F0003859**

Date: 31st January 2012

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000

I refer to your email of 6th December 2011 we are dealing with this under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. You asked for information in relation to vehicles weighed by VOSA as shown in our Annual Effectiveness Report for 2010/11.

Due to shifting priorities and an impetuous to better utilise enforcement resources on more road safety critical issues, VOSA has deliberately set out to reduce the number of vehicles weighed. Whereas our previous instruction to staff was to frequently weigh vehicles using a variety of targeting strategies, our current policy is not to routinely weigh vehicles, weighing mostly vehicles which show obvious signs of being overloaded. This is aided by our network of weigh in motion systems, which allow us to concentrate on only those vehicles which operate at excessive weights.

As expected, this policy has resulted in a significant reduction in vehicles weighed. with an increase in the percentage prohibition rate. Although this vastly improved our prohibition rate, the actual number of vehicles found to be overloaded is less than 30% of the previous results, which shows only that we've weighed vehicles in a much more targeted way than ever before, which is reflected in our Effectiveness Report.

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

An executive agency of the
Department for
Transport

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

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact us, quoting reference **F0003859**.

Yours sincerely

VOSA Information Access