

Address – (Redaction)

Dear (Redaction)

I am writing to confirm that I am now in a position to reply to your request for information about Business Travel Spend for financial year 2005/06, received on 9th October 2006.

The information requested is shown below.

Taxis (Directly Invoiced)	£ 388,485
Rail	£15,467,514
Air	£ 5,837,109
Other (Car Hire)	<u>£ 1,690,169</u>
Total	£23,383,277

Please note that the taxi spend is only directly invoiced fares. The amount spent on taxis by staff and reclaimed as expenses was not collected centrally during this period and could only be obtained at disproportionate cost.

Ticket agencies are used for the provision of rail and air tickets, which enables the Department to obtain best value for the taxpayer by maximising the use of travel tickets at reduced rates.

If you are not satisfied with my handling of your request please tell me why. I will then arrange for an internal review of your request and my actions. The review will be conducted by another officer of a more senior grade to myself who took no part in my original decision. The reviewing officer will advise you of his decision in writing.

If you are still not satisfied after we have looked at your request again, you can then ask the Information Commissioner to look into the way your request has been handled. The Commissioner is an independent officer who is appointed by Her Majesty the Queen and reports directly to Parliament. The Commissioner can see all the papers about your request and decide whether my decision is fair and meets the requirements of the Freedom of Information Act.

The Commissioner can be contacted at:
Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF



Fax: 01625 524 510

E-mail: <http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk>

Yours sincerely

(Redaction)

Redactions made under section 40 of the Freedom of Information Act (Personal Information)

