



Department for
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15th May 2013

Dear Owen,

Thank you for your email of 16th April, in which you requested information about Green Belt data and related correspondence.

Your request asked for the following:

"1. A copy of any correspondence between DCLG, the Telegraph newspaper and/or Ordnance Survey in connection with the provision of the Green Belt dataset made available for download from the following online Telegraph article:

*Interactive map: England's green belt (Telegraph, 28/11/2013)
<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/earth/greenpolitics/planning/9708387/Interactive-map-Englands-green-belt.html>*

2. A copy of the GreenBelt_licence.doc file, referred to in the metadata of the Telegraph article dataset but not included in the download.

3. A copy of any licence provided to the Telegraph newspaper by either DCLG or Ordnance Survey in connection with the provision, distribution or re-use of the same dataset.

4. A copy of the latest updated version of the same dataset. Comparison with Green Belt statistics published by DCLG indicates that the Telegraph article version represents the Green Belt map as at 31 March 2011. I therefore anticipate that DCLG holds an equivalent version representing the Green Belt map as at 31 March 2012.

I am also requesting, in accordance with the Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations, licences to re-use both the Telegraph article dataset and any updated version DCLG may provide to me. I would like to re-use the data for both personal and

commercial purposes. Please confirm whether the data is available for re-use and if so on what terms."

I have considered your request under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. I confirm that the Department holds the information that you have requested, and I am able to supply it to you.

A copy of the information is enclosed, in the format you requested.

1. Please see the attached copy of emails as requested. Personal information has been redacted, as well as information not within the scope of the request.
2. Please see the attached licence file. Please note that references to Paragraph 7 should refer to Conditions, Paragraph 2.
3. The licence under which The Daily Telegraph received a copy of the Green Belt file would have been the Ordnance Survey media licence which can be found at

<http://www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/oswebsite/docs/licences/media-licensing.pdf>

However I believe that this licence expired in July 2012 (note that the original request dated from January 2012).

4. We have not yet produced a shapefile of the 2011-12 Green Belt; however we do intend to do so and will seek to make it publicly available. The 2010-11 shapefile as published by the Telegraph will be very similar, as there were only a handful of changes made by local authorities.

With reference to the Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations the shapefile published by the Telegraph is in effect unlicensed as it was published without our permission. Notwithstanding that, any Green Belt boundaries provided by local authorities (as in the published shapefile) may only be used for non-commercial uses.

As an organisation, the Department for Communities and Local Government aims to be as helpful as possible in the way it deals with requests for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and the Environmental Information Regulations 2004. If, however, you are not satisfied with the way in which your request has been handled or the outcome, you may request an internal review within two calendar months of the date of this letter by contacting foirequests@communities.gsi.gov.uk

In the event that you remain dissatisfied following the Department's review you have the right to apply directly to the [Information Commissioner](#) (ICO) for a decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the Internal Review procedure provided by the Department.

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact me. Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications about this request.

Yours sincerely,

Grant Kelly