



Owen Boswarva <owen.boswarva@gmail.com>

Re: FOI and RoPSIR requests for number of licensed vehicles in UK by Output Area [P0020605]

Owen Boswarva <owen.boswarva@gmail.com>

27 January 2022 at 13:30

To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@dft.gov.uk>

Cc: VEHICLES STATS <VEHICLES.STATS@dft.gov.uk>

Hi [REDACTED],

No, I'm afraid not. My question is as follows: Is DfT granting me permission to re-use the information in the data file under the terms of the Open Government Licence v3?

I would be grateful for a direct response to that question. I appreciate this may seem picky, but without an unequivocal statement of the conditions of re-use from DfT I cannot establish legal provenance for onward sharing of the data. Thank you.

Kind regards,

Owen Boswarva

On Thu, 27 Jan 2022 at 13:18, [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@dft.gov.uk> wrote:

Hello Owen

Yes I can confirm that the data can be used for any purpose by any person or organisation. For the vehicles data the only licences we usually issue are those that restrict use to particular projects or purposes.

Is that sufficient?

Best wishes

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] | Statistician, Vehicles, Drivers and Access to Services Statistics, Travel and Environment
Data and Statistics (TRENDS) Division, Department for Transport
3rd Floor | [REDACTED] | [REDACTED]

From: Owen Boswarva <owen.boswarva@gmail.com>

Sent: 27 January 2022 13:14

To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@dft.gov.uk>

Cc: VEHICLES STATS <VEHICLES.STATS@dft.gov.uk>

Subject: Re: FOI and RoPSIR requests for number of licensed vehicles in UK by Output Area [P0020605]

Dear [REDACTED],

Many thanks for your response and for the data file.

May I have confirmation that DfT is granting me permission to re-use the information in the data file under the terms of the Open Government Licence v3? The response in your letter ("This dataset can be freely used and shared openly") does not make clear whether DfT is imposing any conditions on re-use.

Thank you.

Kind regards,

Owen Boswarva

Contact details

e-mail: owen.boswarva@gmail.com

telephone: [REDACTED] or [REDACTED]

address: [REDACTED]

On Wed, 26 Jan 2022 at 10:52, [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@dft.gov.uk> wrote:

Dear Mr Boswarva

Please see attached letter and data file.

Very sorry for the delay in responding.

Best wishes

[REDACTED].

[REDACTED] | Statistician, Vehicles, Drivers and Access to Services Statistics, Travel and Environment
Data and Statistics (TRENDS) Division, Department for Transport
3rd Floor | [REDACTED] | [REDACTED]

From: Owen Boswarva <owen.boswarva@gmail.com>

Sent: 25 January 2022 17:28

To: FOI-ADVICE-TEAM-DFT <FOI-ADVICE-TEAM-DFT@dft.gov.uk>; VEHICLES STATS
<VEHICLES.STATS@dft.gov.uk>

Subject: Overdue for response: FOI and RoPSIR requests for number of licensed vehicles in UK by Output Area [P0020605]

Your ref: P0020605

Good afternoon,

May I have a response to my email of 21 December 2021 below?

Section 10 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and regulation 8 of the Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations 2015 require that DfT should provide a substantive response to my information and re-use requests within 20 working days. That period has now passed.

Thank you.

Kind regards,

Owen Boswarva

Contact details

e-mail: owen.boswarva@gmail.com

telephone: 0115 9810465 or 07375534122

address: 35 Cambridge Court Loughborough Road, West Bridgford, Nottingham NG2 7NN

From: **Owen Boswarva** <owen.boswarva@gmail.com>
Date: Tue, 21 Dec 2021 at 13:51
Subject: FOI and RoPSIR requests for number of licensed vehicles in UK by Output Area
To: <vehicles.stats@dft.gov.uk>

Good afternoon,

This email follows from my telephone conversation with [REDACTED] this morning.

I would like to request some information about the number of licensed vehicles in the UK, based on 2011 Census geography.

I am interested in this data for its general utility, and for purposes of analysis in combination with other public datasets that are produced based on Census geography, rather than any more specific purpose.

I am submitting this request under the Freedom of Information Act and Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations. I appreciate it may be administratively easier to treat this as a business as usual request. However, the formalities are necessary because I may need to document the provenance of the data and may need to challenge DfT's response to my request.

Details of request:

I am aware that the DfT and the DVLA publishes statistics for licensed vehicles by postcode district and body type (Table VEH0122) at <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/all-vehicles-veh01>.

I am requesting equivalent data – i.e. the number of licensed cars, motorcycles, and all other vehicles – by 2011 Census Output Area (OA) in England, Scotland and Wales, and Small Area (SA) in Northern Ireland.

I am requesting this data without any rounding or suppression of small numbers. OAs and SAs have a confidentiality threshold of 40 households. There should be no need to apply any rounding or suppression of the vehicle counts, as even a single vehicle could not be related to an identifiable individual within the pool of households.

On this subject, I draw your attention to the Upper Tribunal's recent decision in NHS Business Services Authority v Information Commissioner and Spivack: [2021] UKUT 192 (AAC) <https://www.gov.uk/administrative-appeals-tribunal-decisions/nhs-business-services-authority-v-information-commissioner-and-spivack-2021-ukut-192-aac>

If DfT does consider that it cannot release data for OAs/SAs without rounding or suppression of small numbers, please also provide the number of licensed cars, motorcycles, and all other vehicles in each 2011 Census Lower Layer Super Output Area (LSOA) for England and Wales, Data Zone (DZ) for Scotland, and Super Output Area (SOA) for Northern Ireland.

Please provide the data as at Q2 2021 or as at Q3 2021 (whichever is the most recent held by the DfT) and specify the date to which the figures have been calculated.

There is no need to provide statistical names for Census areas, if they are represented by ONS statistical codes.

Please provide the data in a re-usable data format such as CSV, Excel or ODS.

I further request, in accordance with regulation 6 of the Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations 2015, permission to re-use all information provided in response to the above access to information request for the purpose of combining that information with data from existing open public datasets and making the outputs available to others in a re-usable electronic form under an open licence. I request that the DfT grants permission to re-use the information for this purpose under the terms of the Open Government Licence v3 (<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/version/3/>). Given my intended use, any more restrictive licensing terms would be likely to "unnecessarily restrict" the way in which the information can be re-used, contrary to RoPSIR regulation 12.

These requests are new and replace similar requests I submitted to the DVLA in an email dated 21 November

2021. I do not now require a separate response to those earlier requests, and will make the DVLA aware of that.

Thank you for your attention to these requests, and for our discussion earlier.

Kind regards,

Owen Boswarva

Contact details

e-mail: owen.boswarva@gmail.com

telephone: [REDACTED] or [REDACTED]

address: [REDACTED]

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