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Our Ref: FOI0003789

22<sup>nd</sup> January 2008

Dear Juliette,

### **Request of Information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000**

I refer to your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 for information.

I am writing to advise you that following a search of our paper and electronic records, I have established that some of the information requested is held by the Department. The number of people killed or seriously injured in personal injury road accidents involving at least one trailer (includes single, double or multiple trailer or caravan) in Great Britain from 2002 to 2006 is shown in the table.

Year	Number of casualties	
	Killed	Seriously injured
2002	56	406
2003	80	371
2004	54	330
2005	47	345
2006	52	308

The above statistics are for all trailers so therefore include those over 3.5 tonnes drawn by HGVs.

Although in 2006, 52 people were killed in accidents which involved at least one vehicle towing a trailer, this does not mean that the trailer caused the casualties. In 2006, there were 2,289 casualties resulting from reported personal injury road accidents involving at least one trailer - this represents 1 per cent of all casualties reported (258,404).

The Department does not collect data on accidents in which no participants were injured.

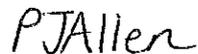
The Vehicle Operating Services Agency (VOSA) provides a range of testing and enforcement services on all vehicles, ensuring they are roadworthy and compliant with road standards. A report on the number of HGV trailers tested by VOSA and deemed to be unroadworthy can be found at

<http://www.vosa.gov.uk/vosacorp/repository/Effectiveness%20Report%202006%2007%200.pdf>

The Department does not hold any of this information for Northern Ireland, so we are unable to provide you with UK figures.

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 by writing to me at the above address. Please see attached details of the Department for Transport's complaints procedure and your right to complain to the Information Commissioner.

Yours faithfully,



**Penny Allen**

## **Your right to complain to [DfT/Agency] and the Information Commissioner**

You have the right to complain 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