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Date: 11th April 2006
Our Ref: **F0000326**

Dear

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000

I refer to your recent request for information relating to the computerised MOT testing system. The answers are below, in the same order as the questions raised.

Q1) How much of the MOT fee goes to Siemens?

A1) £1.09 of the test fee. This is currently a maximum of £44.15 for Class IV vehicles.

Q2) How much longer does the current contact with Siemens last?

A2) The current contract expires on 28/9/2015

Q3) When the contact ends will it be open for other companies to bid for the MOT scheme?

A3) Yes, the contract will have to be re-let, a process which will be via open competition

Q4) When is the MOT scheme going to be privatised?

A4) There are no current plans to privatise the supervision of the MOT Scheme. It should be noted however that MOT testing is currently conducted in over 14,000 privately owned businesses.

Q5) Who owns the MOT scheme information?

A5) All MOT data entered onto the MOT Computerisation database remains the property of VOSA

Q6) Where is MOT information held? Is it in the UK?

A6) Yes, the MOT database is situated within Great Britain

Q7) Is there any provision to take this information out of the UK?

A7) There are no plans at present for the database to be situated anywhere other than within GB

Q8) What is MOT information roughly worth?

A8) The exact market value of MOT data has not yet been identified

Q9) Who gets the money if this information is sold?

A9) This would depend on the individual circumstances in which the data was sold. In some cases VOSA would receive all revenue from the sale of data, in other cases however there is contractual provision for the revenue to be split on a percentage basis between VOSA and Siemens, the percentage share of which would vary on a case by case basis.

If you are unhappy with the decisions made in relation to your request from VOSA you may ask for an internal review. You should contact VOSA Corporate Office (e-mail www.vosa.corporateoffice@vosa.gsi.gov.uk) Berkeley House, Croydon Street Bristol BS5 0DA if you wish to complain.

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

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

Yours sincerely

VOSA Information Access