

Department for  
**Transport**

Mr Graham Ellis  
Well House Consultants  
404 The Spa  
Melksham  
Wiltshire  
SN12 6QL

Judith Shepherd  
Rail Ministerial Liaison Team  
Room 5/22  
Great Minster House  
76 Marsham Street  
LONDON  
SW1P 4DR

Direct line: 0207 944 3719  
Fax: 0207 944 2158  
e-mail: [Judith.Shepherd@dft.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:Judith.Shepherd@dft.gsi.gov.uk)

Our ref: F0002395  
Web site: [www.dft.gov.uk](http://www.dft.gov.uk)

1 SEPTEMBER 2006

Dear Mr Ellis,

I am writing about your 9 requests for information which I received on 16 August 2006. Please see below details of the information we can provide in response to each of your requests. The relevant documents are enclosed.

1. Excerpt from Outline Business Case Report enclosed.
2. Excerpt from Bristol and Inter-regional Detailed Train Service specification Evaluation enclosed.
3. There are no copies of correspondence after 1 September 2005 because the specification was approved by the Secretary of State. There are not any memos on the subject because the way we worked was through papers reporting on option development. See page 15 – enclosed – from the paper sent to SRA Executive for approval of the specification.
4. No request listed.
5. Copies of correspondence with Wiltshire County Council relating to the Greater Western Franchise from January 2005 to date are provided.
6. Details of the SLC" service specification for the rail service from Swindon via Melksham are provided.
7. There are no restrictions placed on the operator of the Swindon to Westbury train service preventing them running trains on a commercial basis.
8. Shortly before franchise award, First quoted a net cost of more than £0.3m p.a. to perpetuate the present level of service. This would have equated to a reduction of more than £2m in the net present value of the franchise premium over 10 years.

9. No correspondence exists relating to bus services from Chippenham to Melksham and Trowbridge that occurred in the last 24 months.

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 address above. Please see attached details of DfT's complaints procedure and your right to complain to the Information Commissioner.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Judith Shepherd". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'J'.

Judith Shepherd  
Rail Customer and Stakeholder Relations 1

## Your right to complain to DfT 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