

FOI Request (received 07 December 2021) - Reference: DFI/2021-0432

I want to know how many complaints have been received about perceived discourtesy from a named Driving Examiner in comparison to your other examiners.

Response (issued 07 January 2022)

Thank you for your e-mail of 7 December 2021 requesting information held by this office, under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOI), relating to complaints about DVA driving examiners. You requested to know how many complaints the named Driving Examiner had had in comparison to other examiners.

In response to your request, I can confirm that, whilst the Department holds information on complaints, I am unable to provide the information you have requested.

The requested information constitutes third party personal data within the meaning of the Data Protection Act 2018 (DPA). A public authority may only release third party personal data if to do so would be fair, lawful and would meet the conditions in Schedule 2, 3 or 4 of the DPA. The Department may not disclose personal information to the public in contravention of any of the data protection principles (Article 5(1) General Data Protection Regulation or sections 34(1) and 85(1) DPA), and must consider all consequences of disclosure in each case.

The requested information is therefore withheld under the exemption provided under FOI by Section 40: personal information. I am satisfied that the public interest is best served by withholding this information.

I appreciate that you will be disappointed with this response but I hope that you will understand the reasons behind the Department's decision.