

18 February 2015
Reference: F0002202

Dear XXXX

I am writing in respect of your recent request of 21 January 2015 for the release of information held by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA).

Your request:

The top five longest flight delays for scheduled flights that took off (i.e. ignoring flights that were cancelled) during the calendar year 2014 for every UK airport.

Please break this down by each airport. For each of the top five longest flight delays, please provide:

- *Flight number*
- *Delay (mins)*
- *Destination*
- *Airport*
- *Scheduled departure date time*
- *Airline*

Our response:

Having considered your request in line with the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA), we are unable to provide the level of detail requested.

Major UK airports provide operating and traffic data to the CAA in accordance with Section 84 (1)(d)(iii) of the Civil Aviation Act 1982, which requires aerodrome licence holders to provide information to the CAA upon request.

The release of information that is supplied to the CAA pursuant to Section 84 (1)(d)(iii) of the Civil Aviation Act 1982 is prohibited from disclosure by Section 23 of that Act. Under Section 23, any information which relates to a particular person or organisation, and has been furnished to the CAA in pursuance of any provision of the Civil Aviation Act to which Section 23 applies, must not be disclosed by the CAA unless such disclosure is authorised by one of the exceptions contained in Section 23 itself. Section 23(6) defines those provisions to which Section 23 applies, which include Section 84.

Civil Aviation Authority

Aviation House Gatwick Airport South Gatwick RH6 0YR www.caa.co.uk
Telephone 01293 768512 foi.requests@caa.co.uk

Section 44(1)(a) of the FOIA provides that information is exempt if its disclosure is prohibited by, or under any enactment and Section 23 of the Civil Aviation Act is such a statutory prohibition. A copy of this exemption can be found below.

However we publish monthly and annual punctuality statistics on the CAA website which is currently calculated for ten UK Airports. The reports are available in excel and list flight delay statistics by airline and category of delay and also includes average delay results. The airports included in the reports are Birmingham, Edinburgh, Gatwick, Glasgow, Heathrow, London City, Luton, Manchester, Newcastle and Stansted. The report will be extended to include results at 23 UK Airports with effect from the October 2014 report, which we are hoping to publish within the next few weeks. The estimated release date for the 2014 annual report is 9 March 2015.

We are able to provide more detailed statistics by way of a bespoke data request however there is a fee attached to this service; published reports can be accessed via the links below.

Punctuality Statistics homepage

<http://www.caa.co.uk/default.aspx?catid=80&pagetype=88&pageid=12&sglid=12>

Punctuality Statistics – 2014 monthly results; please view Full Analysis reports

<http://www.caa.co.uk/default.aspx?catid=80&pagetype=88&sglid=12&fld=2014>

Estimated Release Dates

<http://www.caa.co.uk/default.aspx?catid=81&pagetype=90&pageid=10131>

If you are not satisfied with how we have dealt with your request in the first instance you should approach the CAA in writing at:-

Caroline Chalk
Head of External Information Services
Civil Aviation Authority
Aviation House
Gatwick Airport South
Gatwick
RH6 0YR

caroline.chalk@caa.co.uk

The CAA has a formal internal review process for dealing with appeals or complaints in connection with Freedom of Information requests. The key steps in this process are set in the attachment.

Should you remain dissatisfied with the outcome you have a right under Section 50 of the FOIA to appeal against the decision by contacting the Information Commissioner at:-

Information Commissioner's Office
FOI/EIR Complaints Resolution
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
SK9 5AF
www.ico.gov.uk/complaints.aspx

If you wish to request further information from the CAA, please use the form on the CAA website at <http://www.caa.co.uk/application.aspx?catid=286&pagetype=65&appid=24>.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M Stevens'.

Mark Stevens
External Response Manager

CAA INTERNAL REVIEW & COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE

- The original case to which the appeal or complaint relates is identified and the case file is made available;
- The appeal or complaint is allocated to an Appeal Manager, the appeal is acknowledged and the details of the Appeal Manager are provided to the applicant;
- The Appeal Manager reviews the case to understand the nature of the appeal or complaint, reviews the actions and decisions taken in connection with the original case and takes account of any new information that may have been received. This will typically require contact with those persons involved in the original case and consultation with the CAA Legal Department;
- The Appeal Manager concludes the review and, after consultation with those involved with the case, and with the CAA Legal Department, agrees on the course of action to be taken;
- The Appeal Manager prepares the necessary response and collates any information to be provided to the applicant;
- The response and any necessary information is sent to the applicant, together with information about further rights of appeal to the Information Commissioners Office, including full contact details.

Freedom of Information Act: Section 44

(1) Information is exempt information if its disclosure (otherwise than under this Act) by the public authority holding it-

- (a) is prohibited by or under any enactment,
- (b) is incompatible with any Community obligation, or
- (c) would constitute or be punishable as a contempt of court.

(2) The duty to confirm or deny does not arise if the confirmation or denial that would have to be given to comply with section 1(1)(a) would (apart from this Act) fall within any of paragraphs (a) to (c) of subsection (1).