Freedom of Information Request FOI 18 89

Fleet list

Query and response:

REQUEST 1

The Local Authority is requested to provide a list of motor vehicles owned or leased to the council; currently licensed with the Driver & Vehicle Licensing Authority ("the DVLA") where the Registered Keeper of the vehicle is that of the Local Authority in the following format:

1. Registration Mark of each motor vehicle;
2. Fleet number allocated (if any);
3. Chassis Make and Model;
4. Type of Body fitted;
5. Date new or date of acquisition.

Please see attached an Excel document named "FOI 18 89 Fleet list".

Under the terms of the Act, a request for information can be refused where one or more exemptions listed in the Act apply. In this case we are claiming the following exemptions to the information (registration number) that you have requested:

Section 31 (1) (a) Law enforcement - the prevention or detection of crime.

We are applying the above exemption to the release of fleet registration numbers. We believe that releasing this information may have wider implications that we must consider. By this we mean that disclosing certain information may prejudice our ability to maintain our own and national security. We believe that maintaining security and ensuring public safety in a national and local context takes precedence over releasing certain information.

As this is a qualified exemption we have carried out a public interest test to consider the damage likely to be caused by disclosure and whether this outweighs the need to disclose.

We have taken into consideration the fact that we are a major emergency service provider. We have considered the impact of releasing the data you requested and there is a significant risk that it could compromise our ability to protect our valuable assets and maintain the effective operation of our emergency provision. With that in mind, we have concluded that the public interest in withholding the information outweighs the public interest in disclosing it.

Section 24 – Safeguarding National Security

As an emergency service, Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service (DWFRS) must ensure that operationally sensitive intelligence is appropriately protected. Releasing detailed information such as call signs may prejudice our ability to maintain our own and national security.

As a member of the Emergency Services Sector of the Critical National Infrastructure (CNI) it is of paramount importance that DWFRS does all it can to reduce the vulnerabilities to terrorism within the national infrastructure. The release of the

requested information could seriously compromise that position.
Moreover, the area has a number of military bases whose security could be put at risk by publication of this information.

As section 24 is a qualified, prejudice-based exemption we are required to consider the public interest in any refusal. We feel there is a greater public interest in maintaining national security and public safety than in disclosing the information that has been requested. I have considered the public interest balancing test and our view is that the factors favouring withholding the information outweigh those favouring making the information available.

In making this decision we have taken guidance from the Centre for Protecting the National Infrastructure (CPNI) on disclosure of sensitive information, which states ".... that national security is paramount and should be considered carefully in any government or commercial decision to release or disseminate information to the public".

REQUEST 2

Details of vehicles sold after use by the council since 1.1.2015 (if this information is still available)

Please see attached an Excel document named "FOI 18 89 Fleet list". Please note that due to a number of changes to fleet management software and the combination of Dorset Fire and Rescue Service and Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service to form Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service on 1 April 2016, there may be some discrepancies in this data relating to sold vehicles.