



Freedom of Information Request FOI 26 08

Current Fleet List

Query:

Please can you send me an up to date copy of the vehicle fleet list, which includes the stations, Reg No., make and model and any new builds on order.

Response:

Dorset and Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service have orders for the following vehicles

1 x Hydrant Van - Nissan Interstar

2 x Brigade Manager Cars Volvo XC 90

8 x Super Pumping Appliances

Please find enclosed a copy of our current fleet list, which is also published on our website:

<https://www.dwfire.org.uk/about-us/accessing-information/information-guide/>

Information relating to the vehicle registration numbers and the stations the appliances are based at has been excluded from our response.

This information is exempt under the following provisions of the Freedom of Information Act:

Section 24(1) – National Security

Section 31(1)(a), (b) and (c) – Law Enforcement

While disclosure of this information could demonstrate openness, transparency, and may be of interest to emergency-service vehicle enthusiasts who follow fleet activity, the broader public interest in its release is limited. Although publishing vehicle registration numbers (VRN's) and locations might offer some reassurance that appropriate resources are available in specific areas.

Disclosure can:

- Support public understanding of how emergency vehicles are distributed geographically**

- Enable scrutiny of access to emergency services and resource allocation**



- Promote accountability in public service provision and increase public confidence and trust

We acknowledge the public interest in openness and transparency on releasing the location and VRN's of our fleet, but we consider that there is also a public interest in safeguarding national security. Releasing the vehicle registration numbers and locations adds little meaningful value in terms of demonstrating accountability or the use of public funds. As such, we consider the public interest in disclosure to be minimal.

Disclosure of information under the Freedom of Information Act is considered to be a disclosure to the "world at large". Releasing information such as VRN and locations of these vehicles may have wider implications that must be considered to maintain the security of DWFRs as well as national security. Its release would undermine our operational resilience by exposing critical infrastructure to unnecessary risk

The National Protective Security Authority (NPSA) state that one of the methods terrorists will exploit is deception and the use of trojan vehicles. As the majority of our white fleet does not have any identifiable markings, releasing the number plates into the public domain would give terrorists information which could be used to clone our vehicles which may then be used in a terrorist attack. This would affect the security of not only DWFRS but also national security as we would not be able to respond to incidents, support other fire and rescue services both locally or at a national level.

We have already had break ins at our fire stations and those in neighbouring services. Releasing VRN's and locations of vehicles increases the risk of the premises being targeted for criminal activity, protest, harassment, or malicious acts. This would endanger the safety of staff, service users, and members of the public present at or near to the premises if a break in were to occur. Emergency service premises form part of the UK's critical public safety infrastructure. We have a duty of care to protect those working at, visiting, or relying upon these facilities. The consequences of any incident at such locations could be severe, even if the likelihood is low.

Although VRNs and location details may appear routine, releasing them would provide information that could be exploited by individuals with malicious intent. Disclosure would enable vehicles to be identified, tracked, or monitored, increasing the risk of targeted theft, damage, interference, or wider criminal activity. When combined with publicly accessible data sources, this information could be used to analyse operational patterns, identify vulnerabilities, or compromise the security of assets and personnel.

These arguments are particularly strong in the current climate considering the current UK threat level (SUBSTANTIAL) and recent station break ins.

We have therefore concluded that these exemptions apply, and that non-disclosure serves the public interest better than release in this instance. In coming to this decision, we have considered the current national threat level



of SUBSTANTIAL (ie an attack is likely) when deciding to withhold the VRN and location of our fleet.

Disclosure would be likely to prejudice the prevention or detection of crime by enabling those with criminal intent to target vehicles or operational locations. Revealing VRNs and location information could assist in identifying movement patterns or operational readiness, increasing risks to staff, vehicles, and the public.

Protecting the security and integrity of operational assets is a strong and ongoing public interest that outweighs the limited value of releasing this information

Information/Detail accurate on the date provided: 03, February 2026