| Police Scotland logo | Freedom of Information ResponseOur reference: FOI 23-1927Responded to: 23 August 2023 |
| --- | --- |

Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

## I understand that you regularly publish fleet information for marked vehicles on your website. However, if possible, I would like to obtain some additional bits of information about each vehicle currently operated in 2023 - excluding any vehicles you may deem exempt from disclosure.

## Please could you provide me with some sort of document detailing the following fields of fleet information for each vehicle disclosed:

## - VRM / Registration Number

## - Fleet Number

## - Vehicle Make & Model

## - Vehicle Colour

With regards to your request regarding Fleet data above I can advise this information requested is already publicly available, accordingly, the following exemption is applicable:

## Section 25(1) – Information otherwise accessible

To explain, this information can already be accessed on our website. I have provided the link below for your assistance.

<https://www.scotland.police.uk/access-to-information/freedom-of-information/fleet-information/>

## - Area / Division

## - Specific Location / Station / Vehicle Operator

## - Vehicle Use / Purpose

With regards to providing details of above, in terms of Section 16 of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 I am refusing to provide you with the information sought. Section 16 of the Act requires Police Scotland to provide you with a notice which: (a) states that it holds the information, (b) states that it is claiming an exemption, (c) specifies the exemption in question and (d) states, if that would not be otherwise apparent, why the exemption applies. I can confirm that Police Scotland holds the information that you have requested. Where information is considered to be exempt, this letter serves as a Refusal Notice that information is held and an explanation of the appropriate exemption is provided.

**Section 35(1)(a)&(b) Law Enforcement**

Information is exempt information if its disclosure under this Act would or would be likely to prejudice substantially the prevention or detection of crime and the apprehension or prosecution of offenders. Disclosure of areas/specific locations of each marked vehicle would highlight vehicle resources and capabilities. Revealing this information would substantially weaken the effective use of vehicle resources with a corresponding risk to law enforcement and to the safety of both the public and officers.

This is a non-absolute exemption and requires the application of the public interest test.

## Section 39(1) – Health, Safety and the Environment

The release of this information would circumvent the efficient and effective provision of law enforcement by the police service for the reasons described above. This would in turn increase the risk to the personal safety of individuals and to the safety of the police officers responding to incidents.

This is a non-absolute exemption and requires the application of the public interest test.

## Public Interest Test

I recognise that public awareness would favour a disclosure as it would contribute to the public debate surrounding the overall nature of vehicle resources available for deployment by the Police. In addition accountability for the use of public funds is also a persuasive argument.

That said, I would contend that the efficient/effective conduct of the service and public safety favours retention of the information as it cannot be in the public interest to release information that would prejudice law enforcement or which is likely to have an adverse impact upon public/officer safety.

Accordingly, I consider that the public interest in disclosing the information requested is outweighed by that in maintaining the exemption detailed above.

If you require any further assistance please contact us quoting the reference above.

You can request a review of this response within the next 40 working days by email or by letter (Information Management - FOI, Police Scotland, Clyde Gateway, 2 French Street, Dalmarnock, G40 4EH). Requests must include the reason for your dissatisfaction.

If you remain dissatisfied following our review response, you can appeal to the Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner (OSIC) within 6 months - [online](http://www.itspublicknowledge.info/Appeal), by email or by letter (OSIC, Kinburn Castle, Doubledykes Road, St Andrews, KY16 9DS).

Following an OSIC appeal, you can appeal to the Court of Session on a point of law only.

This response will be added to our [Disclosure Log](http://www.scotland.police.uk/access-to-information/freedom-of-information/disclosure-log) in seven days' time.

Every effort has been taken to ensure our response is as accessible as possible. If you require this response to be provided in an alternative format, please let us know.