



HAMPSHIRE
FIRE AND
RESCUE
SERVICE

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Sent by Email:

To: Mr D Bryant

Email: request-616008-f74b77e2@whatdotheyknow.com

Date: 21 November 2019

Enquiries to: Information Compliance Officer

Governance & Compliance Team
Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service HQ
Leigh Road
Eastleigh
Hampshire
SO50 9SJ

Direct Dial Tel: 023 8062 6850

Fax: 023 8062 6718

Email: dp@hantsfire.gov.uk

Our Ref: EIR 259 19-20

Your Reference: Climate Change

Dear Mr Bryant,

Freedom of Information Act 2000

We are writing in respect of your recent application for the release of information held by the Authority.

You asked:

As climate change is a current issue in the world and the local area with regards emissions, I would like to know how Hampshire is addressing the issue of their daily carbon footprint.

Our answer:

We can confirm that we hold the information requested. Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service (HFRS) have completed a Carbon Management Programme which involved the implementation of several energy and carbon reduction measures, including the instillation of solar panels across our estate. The overall programme resulted in a 30% reduction in our carbon emissions.

Additionally, we now have a dedicated Energy and Sustainability Officer to manage further sustainability initiatives, including around energy and waste reduction, and environmental compliance.

You asked:

I appreciate that fire engines are essential but difficult to make environmentally friendly, I would like to know why Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service still provides large diesel cars for officers which produce a large amount of emissions when

smaller more environmentally friendly cars would be cheaper to buy and more fit for purpose when all they carry is a set of kit which would fit in a 2 door hatchback.

Our answer:

Our officer cars are required to comply with safety standards for response driving, particularly in relation to breaking and handling performance, as well as being able to fulfil our operational requirements. These vehicles need to operate in all weather conditions, in adverse terrain and be capable of responding at high speeds over long distances, especially when responding to calls in other counties.

Further, our officer cars need to be capable of carrying a large amount of equipment that would not fit into a small hatchback car. One of the minimum operational requirements for the vehicle is a boot volume of at least 400 litres to enable the safe storage of the equipment. In addition, the majority of HFRS officers also have specialist roles which require them to carry additional equipment in their cars.

As smaller vehicles are not able to meet these requirements, they are not appropriate to be used as officer cars.

Any future correspondence with HFRS in relation to this matter should be sent to the Information Compliance Officer at the above address.

If for whatever reason you are unhappy with our response you may request an internal review by contacting DP@hantsfire.gov.uk or by writing to the Governance and Compliance Team at Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service Headquarters, Leigh Road, Eastleigh, Hampshire, SO50 9SJ.

Should you remain dissatisfied you can appeal against the internal review decision by contacting the Information Commissioner, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow SK9 5AF.

Yours sincerely

Matthew Collinson

Governance and Compliance Team