



HAMPSHIRE  
FIRE AND  
RESCUE  
SERVICE

We make life safer

**Sent by Email:**

To: Mr Martin Cutler

**Email:** request-622476-  
0a590c5d@whatdotheyknow.com

Date: 10 December 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](mailto:dp@hantsfire.gov.uk)

Our Ref: FOI 280 19-20

Your Reference: Fire Service  
Vehicles

Dear Mr Cutler,

**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:**

Can you please provide a list of all vehicles owned by your service.

What type the vehicle is (pump, platform etc), which stations they are based at and vehicle registration numbers.

**Our answer:**

We can confirm that we hold the information requested. Please find attached our fleet list which contains a list of the fire engines and other vehicles we have by station.

Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service (HFRS) holds the vehicle registration numbers for our vehicles. However, this information is exempt under Section 24(1) National Security of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Section 24(1) provides that information is exempt from Section 1(1)(b) if it is required for the purposes of safeguarding national security.

The national security exemption is based on the effect the disclosure would have, not on the content or source of the information.

As you may be aware, disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act is a release to the public at large. While we are not questioning the motives of the applicant, releasing our vehicles' registrations would enable the tracking and targeting of our vehicles to prevent us responding in the event of criminal/terrorist activity. This would increase the severity, impact and risk to lives in the event of an attack.

This would also impact on emergency response resources, as more crime would be committed because criminals would be able to determine which areas had less capability to respond to an incident at any given time, placing the public at greater risk. This would be to the detriment of providing an efficient emergency service and a failure in our duty of care to all members of the public.

We recognise that there is an interest in ensuring that public bodies are transparent and accountable in their activities and that there is an interest in our vehicles generally.

## **Conclusion**

Public safety and the ability to deliver an effective response to emergencies are of paramount importance to HFRS. Disclosing this information would be likely to compromise our ability to respond to criminal/terrorist activities. Therefore, we believe that the balance of public interest favours not disclosing this information.

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](mailto: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