

**Merseyside Fire & Rescue****Authority Headquarters**

Strategy and Performance
Bridle Road
Bootle
Merseyside
L30 4YD

Telephone: 0151 296 4000
(Calls may be recorded)

Debbie Appleton 0151 296 4402
Sue Coker 0151 296 4425

Web Site:
www.merseyfire.gov.uk

Date: 4 May 2021

Your Ref:

Our Ref: FOI/50/2021

Dear Mr Doughty,

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 - INFORMATION REQUEST**You requested the following information:**

"Hello, I am wishing to know the PDA (pre-determined attendance) to different fire calls, this would be valuable information as I am making a virtual Merseyside Fire and Rescue Service.

The reason I am asking for these is to make sure I can send the correct attendances to certain emergency calls that the fire service responds to."

Our Response:

We are applying exemptions under sec. 24 (National Security) and sec. 38 (Health and Safety) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to the request for information referred to above.

Endanger health and safety - Section 38 of the Freedom of Information Act provides a qualified exemption for release of information if its disclosure would, or would be likely to, endanger the physical or mental health, or the safety of any individual.

The reasons why Section 38 applies (public interest test):

As a major emergency service provider Merseyside Fire & Rescue Authority (MFRA) has to ensure that its operational information is appropriately protected. The release of this information has wider implications that have to be considered and if this information was disclosed it may prejudice MFRAs ability to maintain the safety of its workforce and the safety of those involved in an incident to which it responds. Maintaining the safety of staff and the public takes precedence over this request.

Given the current security climate in the UK, MFRA needs to take a precautionary approach. We have also considered that if this information was released and was then put together with other available information it could potentially cause damage.

National Security - Section 24 of the Freedom of Information Act provides a qualified exemption for release of information if its disclosure would prejudice safeguarding national security.



1) Information which does not fall within Section 23 (1) is exempt information if exemption from section 1 (1) (b) is required for the purpose of safeguarding national security.

The reasons why section 24 applies (public interest test):

As a major emergency service provider Merseyside Fire & Rescue Authority (MFRA) has to ensure that its operational information is appropriately protected. The release of this information has wider implications that have to be considered and if this information was disclosed it may prejudice MFRAs ability to maintain its own security and national security. Maintaining security and ensuring public safety takes precedence over this request.

Given the current security climate in the UK, MFRA needs to take a precautionary approach. We have also considered that if this information was released and was then put together with other available information it could potentially cause damage.

We are particularly mindful that the Act works on an 'applicant blind' basis and that by providing information to one person we then set a precedent for making it available to anyone else who asks for it.

If you have any queries or concerns then please do not hesitate to contact the Director of Strategy and Performance on the above numbers.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request please contact the Information Management Officer, Merseyside Fire and Rescue Authority Headquarters, Bridle Road, Bootle, Merseyside, L30 4YD, email foiteam@merseyfire.gov.uk.

You can also contact the Information Commissioner at:

*Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF*

Telephone: 0303 123 1113

<http://www.ico.org.uk>

Yours sincerely

Tracey Brewer for
Information Management Officer