



Freedom of Information Request 395/17

Response date: 19th May 2017

I am asking for information regarding Crimes reported/ recorded in the Pontypridd area.

I would like a break down of crimes recorded over the past 2 years in Lanpark Road, Tyfica Road and Tyfica Crescent

I would like the nature of the crime, and any buildings they were associated with. i.e shop, hostel, bar etc if possible.

I am particularly interested in any crimes that have been specifically associated with the hostels/homeless provision in Tyfica Road.

RESPONSE

A search has been conducted on our crime and incident recording system (Niche RMS) which have occurred throughout the requested time period at the requested locations.

Please see the attached document entitled 'Response Data 385/17 Lanpark Road', 'Response Data 385/17 Tyfica Road' and 'Response Data 385/17 Tyfica Crescent' which provides information to answer your request.

'Live' investigations have been omitted from the response data.

Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires South Wales Police, when refusing to provide such information (because the information is exempt) to provide you the applicant with a notice which:

- (a) states that fact,
- (b) specifies the exemption in question and
- (c) states (if that would not otherwise be apparent) why the exemption applies.

In relation to 'live' investigations, the following exemption applies:

Section 30 (1) (a) - Investigations and Proceedings Conducted by Public Authorities

Section 30 (1) (a) creates an exemption for information which has at any time been held by the authority for the purposes of any investigation which the public authority has a duty to conduct with a view to it being ascertained (i) whether a person should be charged with an offence, or (ii) whether a person charged with an offence is guilty of it.

Section 30 is a qualified class based exemption which requires the authority to consider the public interest in disclosure.

Continued

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Public Interest Test

Section 30 Considerations favouring disclosure

Disclosure of the requested information would give the public increased satisfaction of knowing that these types of cases are investigated properly. In addition to this, disclosure would allow the public to be more informed about the use of public funds.

Section 30 Considerations favouring non-disclosure

If we released details of ongoing criminal/disciplinary investigations in relation to various allegations, this could undermine and prejudice those investigations which would impinge on the alleged offender's right to a fair trial. This could result in sub-judice and subsequently, South Wales Police could be held in contempt of court.

Balancing Test

After considering factors favouring both disclosure and non-disclosure in respect of ongoing investigations, we have come to the conclusion that the strongest argument for non-disclosure outweighs the strongest argument for disclosure. Although the public would be better informed in relation to such ongoing investigations and the use of public funds, there would be no public interest in disclosing information which could undermine and prejudice an investigation. This could ultimately lead to a waste of resources.

In all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosure of the information.

Therefore, this letter acts as a refusal notice for this part of your request.

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