

Ref No: FOI 4963
Date: 11/02/22
Subject: Access Card Readers

REQUEST & RESPONSE

Please give all information relating to:

- The make and model of readers used

We believe that to release this information would be likely to prejudice the prevention or detection of crime. Therefore, this information is exempt under section 31(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act as information whose disclosure would, or be likely to, prejudice the prevention or detection of crime. This acts as our refusal notice.

Section 31 is subject to a test of prejudice and the University is required to conduct a public interest test.

The argument to maintain the section 31 exemption is that to release information about the make and model of access card readers used by the University may create opportunities for criminal activity on campus, increasing the level of risk to the University and its staff and students. We do not believe it is in the public interest to undermine the safety of the University, its staff, students and its efforts to prevent crime, which is a likely consequence of the release of the requested information.

Having considered the wider public interest in openness and transparency and the arguments in favour of maintaining the exemptions, we believe that the balance of the public interest in maintaining the exemptions outweighs that of disclosing the information.

- The company which manufactures/distributes the readers

Grosvenor and Salto

- Any third-party installers/channel partners used to purchase the readers

All additional installation works are tendered as individual contract works.

- The security infrastructure provider

MJ Catterall Ltd.

- The software used to manage the door controllers and readers.

We believe that to release this information would be likely to prejudice the prevention or detection of crime. Therefore, this information is exempt under section 31(1)(a) of the Freedom of

Information Act as information whose disclosure would, or be likely to, prejudice the prevention or detection of crime. This acts as our refusal notice.

Section 31 is subject to a test of prejudice and the University is required to conduct a public interest test.

The argument to maintain the section 31 exemption is that to release information about the software used to manage door controllers and card readers used by the University may create opportunities for criminal activity on campus, increasing the level of risk to the University and its staff and students. We do not believe it is in the public interest to undermine the safety of the University, its staff, students and its efforts to prevent crime, which is a likely consequence of the release of the requested information.

Having considered the wider public interest in openness and transparency and the arguments in favour of maintaining the exemptions, we believe that the balance of the public interest in maintaining the exemptions outweighs that of disclosing the information.

- Approximate quantity of doors at the university.

The University does not hold this recorded information.

- Name of the Head of Estates for the University.

The name of the relevant member of staff has not been provided in order to protect personal information. This information is exempt under section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 as disclosure of this information would breach one of the data protection principles. This acts as our refusal notice.

Additionally, if the university uses readers from multiple suppliers, please give a list of all suppliers.

The University does not procure equipment except via separately priced contract works.

Clarification Received

Please can you clarify whether you are interested in internal or external doors, or both? Additionally, please can you clarify what types of buildings you are interested in at the University - student accommodation, buildings where teaching takes place etc?

Clarification Issued

Thank you for responding to my initial request so promptly - I understand that these requests can be challenging to deal with. I'd like an approximate number of ALL doors, both internal and external, at the university (an estimate accurate to within 100 will suffice). Additionally, we would like information on all buildings that are owned or used by the university and its students e.g. accommodation, gym, library, lecture theatre, student union etc. If you require any more clarification, please do not hesitate to reach out!

Your request i.d. is: 4963. Please quote this in all enquiries.

The University aims to comply fully with its obligations under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and to ensure that the service it provides for those wishing to gain access to information is helpful and effective.

The personal information you have supplied will be used only to process your request; some details will be retained for our records after the request has been answered. This information will not be passed on to other parties unrelated to the University unless we are required to do so by law, or where it would be necessary to answer the request in full (in which case we would seek your consent for any transfer).

Process for Making a Complaint

If you feel the service you have received does not meet our aims or your expectations, you are entitled to request that the University undertakes an internal review of the way we have responded to this request. Requesters should make requests for an internal review no later than 40 working days after the date of this document. The University is not obliged to accept internal reviews after this point.

To request an internal review, please write to:

Head of Governance Services
University House
Lancaster University
Bailrigg
Lancaster
LA1 4YW

Email: information-governance@lancaster.ac.uk

If, following our internal review, you are dissatisfied with the response provided, you may write to the Information Commissioner's Office, for details visit www.ico.org.uk.