



September 2017

Freedom of Information Request Reference N^o: FOI 006007/17

I write in connection with your request for information received by Norfolk Constabulary on the 9th August 2017 in which you sought access to the following information:

Please could you give me a list of all new vehicles bought into service since the start of this year?

Please can you also state make/model and vehicle location.

Response to your Request

The response provided below is correct as of 10th August 2017.

Norfolk Constabulary has located the following information as relevant to your request.

Please see details below:-

Make	Model	Vehicle Base
VAUXHALL	CORSA	TAVERHAM
VAUXHALL	CORSA	ACLE
VAUXHALL	ASTRA	GREAT YARMOUTH
VAUXHALL	ASTRA	OCC
VAUXHALL	ASTRA	OCC
BMW	R1200	ACLE
FORD	TRANSIT	OCC
VAUXHALL	ASTRA	GREAT YARMOUTH
VAUXHALL	ASTRA	EARLHAM
PEUGEOT	206	GREAT YARMOUTH
FORD	TRANSIT	OCC
VAUXHALL	ASTRA	EARLHAM
VAUXHALL	ASTRA	FAKENHAM
VAUXHALL	ASTRA	HURRICANE WAY
VAUXHALL	ASTRA	KINGS LYNN
VAUXHALL	ASTRA	THETFORD
FORD	TRANSIT	OCC
VAUXHALL	ASTRA	OCC
VAUXHALL	VIVARO	CROMER
VAUXHALL	VIVARO	EARLHAM
VAUXHALL	VIVARO	WYMONDHAM

VAUXHALL	VIVARO	HURRICANE WAY
VAUXHALL	VIVARO	WYMONDHAM
FORD	RANGER	HOLT
VAUXHALL	ASTRA	DOWNHAM MARKET
VAUXHALL	ASTRA	BETHEL STREET
VAUXHALL	ASTRA	GREAT YARMOUTH
VAUXHALL	ASTRA	KINGS LYNN
FORD	TRANSIT	OCC
FORD	CONNECT	BETHEL STREET
FORD	CONNECT	BETHEL STREET
FORD	RANGER	CAISTER
POLARIS	570	HUNSTANTON
BMW	X5	OCC
VAUXHALL	ASTRA	AYLSHAM
VAUXHALL	ASTRA	DOWNHAM MARKET

The details of any vehicles used on covert or sensitive investigations have not been provided due to exemptions within the Act.

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

- (a) States that fact
- (b) Specifies the exemption(s) in question and
- (c) States (if that would not otherwise be apparent) why the exemption(s) applies.

The information is exempt from disclosure by virtue of the following exemption(s);

- **Section 31(1)(a)(b) – Law Enforcement**

Section 31 is a qualified and prejudice based exemption and I am therefore obliged to articulate the harm in this information being disclosed and assess the public interest in disclosure.

Harm in disclosure

Norfolk Constabulary is charged with enforcing the law, preventing and detecting crime and protecting the communities we serve. If we were to release the details of vehicles used by the Constabulary, for covert or sensitive activities, it would provide those involved in criminal activity with an indication of the capabilities of the Constabulary. This information, which is in addition to information that is already in the public domain, would assist those involved in criminal behaviour in identifying the vehicles that are used for this purpose. This would render them useless, hinder the prevention and detection of crime and could compromise ongoing and future enquiries.

Section 31 – Factors favouring disclosure

Disclosure of this information would provide the public with an increased knowledge of the resources available to the Constabulary for the purposes of carrying out covert activities and would give an indication of the use of public funds.

Section 31 – Factors favouring non-disclosure

Disclosing the details of covert vehicles would provide sufficient information to those involved in criminal activity of the capabilities of the Constabulary to undertake covert activities. This could

result in them taking steps to evade detection and to destroy evidence if they believe that their movements are being monitored.

There would be increased costs to the public if covert vehicles and officers are identified and suitable replacements needed to be put in place. Identifying officers engaged on sensitive enquiries would also compromise their safety.

Balance Test

There is a public interest in the use of public funds and the resources available to the Constabulary. Disclosing the details of vehicles that are used for covert/sensitive enquiries would compromise current and future law enforcement capabilities, reveal tactical information and ultimately result in additional costs being incurred. Most of the Constabulary's vehicles are liveried therefore they are easily identifiable by members of the public and there are only a small number that are specifically unmarked to order to carry out this covert function.

It is our opinion that for these reasons the balancing test for disclosure is not made out. This letter serves as a refusal notice under Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act for this part of your request by virtue of the exemption at Section 31(1)(a)(b) Law Enforcement.