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Our Ref: FOI2017/01666

REQUEST UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 Ref No: FOI2017/01666, FOI2017/01669 and FOI2017/01674.

I write in connection with your request for information received on 11th December. I note you seek access to the following information:

- 1. How many dedicated Road Policing Unit (traffic) cars were on your force's fleet as of the end of November 2017?**
- 2. How many of the same vehicles appeared on the fleet at the end of November 2014, and November 2011?**
- 3. Can you provide a list of the road policing unit (traffic) vehicles on the fleet currently (as of the end of November 2017), including the make and model, year of registration, fuel type, whether it is marked or unmarked and the cost of each vehicle to purchase including modifications?**

I am required by the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (The Act) to handle all requests in a manner that is blind to the identity of the requestor. Any information released in response to a request is regarded as being published and therefore, in the public domain without caveat.

Response – Please find attached the information I am able to provide regarding the marked vehicles;

Attachment – FOI2017 01666 1669 1674 Annexe A

In regards to unmarked vehicles I am not obliged to supply this information because it is exempt under the following exemptions:

Section 31(1)(a)(b) Law Enforcement

- (1) Information which is not exempt information by virtue of section 31 is exempt information if its disclosure under this Act would, or would be likely to prejudice –
- (a) the prevention or detection of crime**
 - (b) the apprehension or prosecution of offenders**

Section 31 is a prejudice based qualified exemption which requires the prejudice (harm) to be evidenced and a public interest test to be carried out. This means it can only be used if the public interest test favours non-disclosure.

Application of the prejudice test

Disclosing the identity of all unmarked vehicles would harm the force's operational ability by allowing those intent on committing crime to identify police presence and assist them in avoiding detection.

If all of Bedfordshire Police, Cambridgeshire Constabulary and Hertfordshire Constabulary's unmarked vehicles are publically available it would prejudice the three force's ability to conduct any covert operations because they could be easily identified allowing crime to be committed, putting communities at risk of crime and therefore, increasing the fear of crime within Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire.

Should you have any further enquiries concerning this matter please do not hesitate to contact me quoting the above reference number.

Yours sincerely

James Hodson
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Hertfordshire Constabulary provides you the right to request an independent review of this response under its review procedure. If you require such a review you must notify us within two months from the date of this letter. After lodging a complaint with Hertfordshire Constabulary if you are still dissatisfied with the decision you may make an application to the Information Commissioner. For information on how to make a complaint please visit their website at <https://ico.org.uk/concerns/> or contact them on 0303 123 1113.