



Our Ref: 001022/21

Your Ref:

Address Correspondence to: Information Management

Date 20 April 2021

Freedom of Information Act 2000

I write further to your request for information received 24/03/2021.

I note you seek access to the following information:

- 1) *Do your Police Officers receive free or discounted train travel?*
- 2) *If so, with which train companies and with what conditions?*
- 3) *Do your Police Officers make any payment for this concession?*
- 4) *Do your Special Constables receive any free or discounted train travel?*
- 5) *If so, with which train companies and with what conditions?*
- 6) *Do your Special Constables make any payment for this concession?*
- 7) *Does your force make any payment to the train company/companies in relation to free/discounted travel for Police Officers or Special Constables?*

Following receipt of your request, searches were conducted within Leicestershire Police to locate information relevant to your request.

Your request for information has now been considered and the information asked for is as follows: -

1. Leicestershire Police have a Public Travel Concessions Procedure which was introduced in 2018 and permits free travel for uniformed Officers for individual trips whilst on duty.
2. The above concession applies with a number of companies, these details are considered exempt by virtue of Section 43 as detailed below.
3. No payments are made by Officers for this as it is only for use when on duty.
4. Please see above.
5. These details are considered exempt by virtue of Section 43 as detailed below.
6. No payments are made by Special Officers for this as it is only for use when on duty.
7. No payment is made to the companies involved in this agreement this is entered into on the basis of the following objectives:
To provide additional reassurance to communities and to passengers travelling on bus and train routes in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland. To increase their perceptions of safety and to increase confidence in the Police and public transport operators.

Further information relating to specific companies who tendered for this contract is considered exempt by virtue of Section 43.

Section 43 – Commercial Interests

As a qualified and class-based exemption, legislators have already accepted the harm in the release of this class of information. As such, there is no requirement for me to apply the harm test.

However, as this exemption is also qualified, I am obliged to apply the public interest test.

Public Interest Test

Factors favouring disclosure:

Providing the information request would allow the public to discuss the way in which Leicestershire Police spends public funds, which would improve accountability. Further, this information would allow informed public debate regarding the spending the interaction between Leicestershire Police and public transport companies.

Factors favouring non-disclosure:

Where third party interests might be jeopardised by release of information that relates to or sensitive commercial information held about business, financial, contractual or operational issues. In this case, the commercial interests of the companies involved and indeed, the Police service may be compromised by the release of detailed information about the public transport companies. By providing detailed information about the companies involved, it may be possible that a company may be disadvantaged commercially if sensitive competitive information is inadvertently provided to competitors.

It is of my opinion that based on the above the balance lies in non-disclosure of this detailed information

Leicestershire Police provides you the right to ask for a re-examination of your request under its review procedure. Letters should be addressed to Information Manager, Corporate Services Department at the above address. If you decide to request such a review and having followed the Force's full process you are still dissatisfied, then you have the right to direct your comments to the Information Commissioner who will give it consideration.

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Officer
Leicestershire Police

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