



Our Ref: 002107/21

Your Ref:

Address Correspondence to: Information Management

Date 08 July 2021

Freedom of Information Act 2000

I write further to your request for information received 21/06/2021.

I note you seek access to the following information:

Under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, please send me a copy of your latest Force Management Statement.

I am aware that the deadline to submit this document to HMICFRS was extended last year because of Covid-19 but as I understand it, all forces had to hand one in by May 28th this year.

Please send me the full version as submitted to HMICFRS, not an executive summary, and if possible please send a searchable PDF rather than a photocopy or scanned in version.

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

Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires Leicestershire 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.

The exemption(s) applicable to the information are as follows.

Section 22 – Information intended for future publication.

Section 22 is a qualified, class-based exemption and therefore requires us to conduct a public interest test.

Section 22 – Considerations favouring disclosure

There is a public interest in disclosure of the requested information as it would allow the public to discuss the conduct of Leicestershire Police within our everyday policing and would therefore raise the Force's accountability.

Disclosure would also enable to public to see how public funds are spent within the Force across every aspect of daily policing.

Section 22 – Considerations favouring non-disclosure

The Force Management Statement is a tactical document that contains a significant amount of information that would be exempt under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. As a result, the Chief Officer team decided that it would be appropriate to publish the FOI compliant version at a later date once appropriate consultation and review had taken place. This document will be published by late autumn on our Force Website. Therefore, I am of the opinion that it is not in the public interest to publish this information prior to the release date.

The information contained within the document contains detailed investigation and law enforcement tactics, which, if released without redaction would allow those minded to commit criminal activity to be aware of internal processes. This redaction is a large task and as the document is already due for release I see no tangible benefit to releasing prior to this review and the planned release.

Conclusion

I believe that on balance it is **not** in the public interest to release information which you have requested on this occasion for the reasons stated above. I appreciate that this is not the decision you had hoped for but I must consider the wider position under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 which I feel necessitates the need to refuse your request under this legislation.

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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