

8 February 2024

IC-282648-R5S5

Request

You asked us for:

- a) Copies of letters and email correspondence between the ICO and the DfT, DVLA and Home Office departments from 1 January 2023 up to the date of this request, which relate to the integrity of vehicle number plates as identified to the ICO and Government in 2020; and
- b) More specifically, copies of correspondence including minutes of meetings, emails and letters between the ICO and the DfT and/or DVLA arising from correspondence received by the ICO from Tony Porter, former Surveillance Camera Commissioner, about the above.

We received your request on 17 January.

We have handled your request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the FOIA).

Our response

We do hold information within the scope of your request. I attach copies of correspondence and meeting minutes between the ICO and the DfT which represent the entirety of the information that we hold falling within the scope of your request.

The correspondence disclosed discusses a number of matters separate from ANPR which are outside of the scope of your request and the information that is out of scope has been redacted using white redactions.

Additionally, some third-party personal data has been redacted with black redactions as it is exempt under s.40(2) FOIA, further information about this is provided below.

FOIA section 40(2)

You will see that some of the third party personal data has been redacted in our response.

Section 40(2) of the FOIA exempts information if it is personal data belonging to an individual other than the requester and it satisfies one of the conditions listed in the legislation.

We find that the condition at section 40(3A)(a) applies in this instance: that disclosure would breach one of the data protection principles. The principles are outlined in the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) with the relevant principle on this occasion being the first principle as provided by Article 5(1): that personal data shall be processed lawfully, fairly and in a transparent manner.

We do not consider that disclosing this information into the public domain is necessary or justified. There is no strong legitimate interest that would override the prejudice to the rights and freedoms of the relevant data subjects. We have therefore taken the decision that disclosing this information would be unlawful, triggering the exemption at section 40(2) of the FOIA.

Next steps

You can ask us to review our response. Please let us know in writing if you want us to carry out a review. Please do so within 40 working days.

You can read a copy of our full [review procedure](#) on our website.

If we perform a review but you are still dissatisfied, you can complain to the ICO as regulator of the FOIA. This complaint will be handled just like a complaint made to the ICO about any other public authority.

You can [raise a complaint](#) through our website.

Your information

Our [privacy notice](#) explains what we do with the personal data you provide to us, and sets out [your rights](#). Our [Retention and Disposal Policy](#) details how long we keep information.

Yours sincerely



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