

Reference:	FOI.16008.24
Subject:	Owned, leased and sold vehicles
Date of Request:	19 November 2024

Requested:

Please can you supply me with the following information?

Registration number:

Make:

Model:

of all vehicles both owned/leased by your NHS Trust and all vehicles sold between 01/09/2023 and 31/10/2024.

Response:

Hywel Dda University Health Board (UHB) is unable to provide the vehicle registration numbers as requested, as it has deemed that this information is exempt from disclosure under Section 31(1)(a) of the FoIA.

Section 31(1)(a) of the FoIA provides that information that is not exempt by virtue of Section 30 (criminal investigations and proceedings) is exempt if its disclosure would, or would be likely to, prejudice the prevention or detection of crime. The Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) guidance advises that Section 31 amongst other things, prevents information being disclosed that would increase the risk of the law being broken. In addition, it can be claimed by any public authority. The UHB is relying upon this exemption as it considers that releasing this information could make the UHB and its staff vulnerable to crime.

Section 31(3) of the Act provides that the duty to confirm or deny does not arise in relation to this information.

Section 31 of the Act is nevertheless subject to the public interest test.

In favour of disclosure: The UHB has a duty to maintain openness and transparency in all of its activities, which will help to maintain public trust in the UHB.

Against disclosure: By releasing the information, the UHB would be vulnerable to this being used for crime, which could potentially compromise the security of both UHB property and its staff. There is a clear public interest in protecting the UHB and its staff from the impact of crime.

Decision: The UHB considers that the public interest in withholding the information is greater than the interest in disclosing, in that it protects the UHB from potential criminal activity.

However, the UHB provides within Attachment 1, the makes, models and user types of its current leased fleet vehicles for business use. Those identified as 'insurance only' are vehicles owned by the UHB.

The UHB confirms that no vehicles have been sold by the UHB, during the requested period.