

WILTSHIRE POLICE



XXXX – Via email

**Force Disclosure Unit
Police Headquarters**
London Road
DEVIZES
Wiltshire
SN10 2DN

Date 28th October 2024

Our Ref FOI 2024-915

Dear XXXX,

I write in connection with your request for information dated 16th October 2024, concerning meter points of Energy Management.

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

Your request for information has now been considered and I am not obliged to supply the information you have requested.

You wrote:

Please share the NHH, HH, Gas and Specialist Gas/Liquid meter points of Energy Management. As per my understanding, whether there is no contract for energy management, the meter points should be available. Please provide.

Our response:

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA), this request is exempt by virtue of Section 31(1)(a)(b) - Law Enforcement.

Section 31 is a qualified prejudice-based exemption and therefore requires Wiltshire Police to establish the harm in disclosure, along with the public interest favouring and against disclosure.

Harm test

Disclosing information into the public domain would undermine the core principles of policing; namely to prevent and detect crime. If Wiltshire Police were to place this information into the public domain, this would open the Force to vulnerabilities and prejudice our ability to prevent and detect crime, in turn affecting the Force's ability to protect the community.

Factors favouring disclosure

Placing this information into the public domain would lead to an increased public awareness which in turn would lead to a higher level of trust and more information being supplied by the

Keeping Wiltshire Safe

public. Disclosure would also show the Force as being as open and transparent with the public as possible.

Factors against disclosure

Providing the exact locations of the Gas and Liquid energy meter point would be damaging to the Force's operational security and functionality by providing a great advantage those wishing to cause harm. By putting the Force at risk of harm, this would put individuals at risk and impact on Police resources leading to an increase in crime.

Balance test

Whilst there is a public interest in transparency and openness between the Force and the public, there is a stronger interest in ensuring the public are protected from the threat of criminals, and that the enforcement of the law and the prevention and detection of crime is upheld. To disclose information which is likely to assist offenders would seriously undermine the effective delivery of operational law enforcement and is therefore exempt from disclosure.

Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires the Constabulary, when refusing to provide 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.

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 this letter acts as a Refusal Notice for those aspects of your request.

Exemptions applied:

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

I am satisfied that all the relevant information has been passed to me and been considered in the light of your request within the time constraints applicable under the legislation.

Wiltshire Police would like to thank you for the interest that you have shown in the Force.

Yours sincerely,

Force Disclosure Decision Maker