



**Hampshire  
& Isle of Wight**  
FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE

**Information Compliance Team**

Headquarters  
Leigh Road  
Eastleigh  
Hampshire  
SO50 9SJ

Sent by email to:

[REDACTED]

---

t. 02380 644000  
e. DP@hantsfire.gov.uk  
w. hantsfire.gov.uk

---

Date: 30 November 2023

Our Reference: FOI 099 23-24

Enquiries to: Information Compliance Officer

**Freedom of Information Act 2000**

Dear [REDACTED]

We are writing in respect of your application for the release of information held by the Service, which we received on 11 October 2023 and which you clarified on 3 November 2023. We can confirm that we have now completed our search for the information requested.

***You asked:***

Please can you forward to me as a matter of urgency all details / information you have on file, letters and email exchanges between Fire Safety Inspector XXX and the Solent Cliffs Care Home, ideally between February 2018 and December 2018.

I would also be grateful if you could provide all information between Fire Safety Inspector XXX and the Solent Cliffs Care Home from June 2023 to the present day.

**Our answer:**

We can confirm that we hold the information requested, please find it attached. Where there were multiple copies of a document attached to multiple emails only one copy of that document has been provided.

Please be aware that we have redacted personal data from these documents (and from your request in this response letter) per Section 40 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. This is because it would be unfair, within the meaning of the UK GDPR, to provide this information to the world at large in response to your request.

## **Exemption for Health and Safety**

Hampshire and Isle of Wight Fire and Rescue Service (HIWFRS) holds three floorplans of Solent Cliffs Care Home. However, this information is exempt under section 38(1) Health and Safety of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Section 38(1) provides that information is exempt from Section 1(1)(b) if the disclosure would, or would be likely to, endanger the physical or mental health of an individual or endanger their safety.

As you may be aware, disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act is a release to the public at large. While we are not questioning the motives of the applicant, releasing floor plans of a care home would put the residents and staff at the premises at risk as it would enable the premises, and/or specific residents, to be targeted. This is particularly acute as an issue as the premises houses vulnerable residents.

## **Public Interest Test**

For this exemption to apply, the public interest in maintaining these exemptions must outweigh the public interest in disclosing the information.

### **Public Interest in Disclosure**

There are several reasons in favour of disclosure to the public at large as follows:

- it promotes transparency and accountability of the Service to the public.
- It evidences that we take our duties to promote fire safety by collecting appropriate information to evaluate the fire safety of properties.

### **Public Interest Against Disclosure**

There are several reasons against the disclosure as follows:

- The release of the information would be likely to increase the probability and severity of criminal activity on the premises (e.g. arson).
- It would be likely to allow known individuals to be targeted within the property (e.g. assault on individuals).

## **Conclusion**

Public safety is of paramount importance to Hampshire and Isle of Wight Fire and Rescue Service. Disclosing this information would be likely to endanger the safety of both residents and staff at Solent Cliff Care Home. Consequently, we believe that the balance of public interest favours not disclosing this information.

The above concludes our investigation into this matter.

Any future correspondence with Hampshire and Isle of Wight Fire and Rescue Service in relation to this matter should be sent to the Information Compliance Officer at the above address.

If for whatever reason you are unhappy with our response you may request an internal review by contacting DP@hantsfire.gov.uk or by writing to the Data Protection Officer at the above address.

Should you remain dissatisfied you can appeal against the internal review decision by contacting the Information Commissioners Office. This can be done online at [www.ico.org.uk/foicomplaints](http://www.ico.org.uk/foicomplaints) or by post to The Information Commissioner, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow SK9 5AF.

Yours sincerely

Information Compliance Officer  
Hampshire and Isle of Wight Fire and Rescue Service