



[Redacted]
[Redacted]

Date
11 February 2025

Post Office
100 Wood Street
London EC2V 9ER

Your Ref:

Classification:
Public

Dear [Redacted],

Freedom of Information Request – FOI2025/00008

We are writing in response to your email received by Post Office Limited (“**Post Office**”) on 06 January 2025, which has been dealt with under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (“**FOIA**”).

In your email, you have requested the information shown verbatim in bold below:

“I would be most grateful if you would provide me, under the Freedom of Information Act, the following information:

- 1. What brand of CCTV cameras are in use? If there are multiple please provide a list**
- 2. How many cameras are in list across the estate? (If there are multiple vendors please could you provide a breakdown of how many devices per vendor)**
- 3. What is the annual spend on new CCTV cameras?**
- 4. Who is the senior officer (outside of procurement) responsible for this?**
- 5. When did you last replace the cameras?**
- 6. When are the existing cameras due to be replaced?”**

We can confirm that Post Office does hold the information requested, however we consider that it should be withheld under sections 31(1)(a) Law Enforcement and 40(2) Personal Data.

The information you have requested in questions 1,2,3,5 and 6, falls under the exemption 31(1)(a) Law Enforcement of the FOIA, specifically with regard to the prevention or detection of crime. In applying this exemption, we have had to balance the public interest in withholding the information against the public interest in disclosure. On the one hand, we recognise that there is a general public interest in Post Offices procurement of CCTV equipment as this promotes transparency and confidence in our estates security systems.

However, on the other hand, there is a stronger public interest in withholding information concerning Post Office CCTV cameras which are a primary security layer for our Post Office branches, Cash Handling Centres and our other buildings which form the Post Office Estate. If this information were to be in the public domain, it would be likely to assist those with nefarious intent in committing theft or burglary, compromising Post Office premises security and staff/public safety. This is because our CCTV brands, coverage, spend and replacement as a disclosure would paint a picture and highlight any vulnerabilities of the security systems in place across the estate. Therefore, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosure.

With respect to question 4, the name of the individual responsible for managing our CCTV systems is being withheld under sections 40(2) and 40(3A) of the FOIA as the information constitutes personal data relating to other persons. These sections exempt personal information from disclosure if that information relates to someone other than the applicant, and if disclosure of that information would breach any of the data protection principles in Article 5(1) of the UK General Data Protection Regulation ("GDPR").

We consider that disclosure of this information is likely to breach the first data protection principle, which provides that personal data must be processed lawfully, fairly, and in a transparent manner. Disclosure would not constitute 'fair' processing of the personal data because Post Office staff involved would not reasonably expect their names, or roles to be disclosed in relation to this request for information

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of this response, you do have a right to request an internal review. You can do this by writing to the address above within 40 working days of receipt of this response stating your reasons for your internal review request or alternatively, by emailing information.rights@postoffice.co.uk.

If, having requested an internal review by Post Office, you are still not satisfied with our response you also have a right of appeal to the Information Commissioner at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire SK9 5AF

Telephone: 0303 123 1113
www.ico.org.uk/foicomplaints

Yours sincerely,

Information Rights Team
information.rights@postoffice.co.uk
<https://corporate.postoffice.co.uk/en/governance/access-to-information/access-to-information/>

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