

FOI 2025-574

I write in connection with your request for dated 11/06/2025 concerning PCC sale of police assets.

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.

Following receipt of your request, research was conducted by the Office of Police Crime and Commissioner.

Your request for information has now been considered and I am able to respond as follows.

You wrote:

Please could we have a copy of any information material, policy documents, or tender documentation used by the PCC in Wiltshire, to facilitate, enable, assess, score, and evidence its decision-making processes regarding the sale of police assets, and specifically redundant police stations.

Response

The requirement for Police estate is determined by operational advice of the Chief Constable and based upon policing operating models and the subsequent requirement for estate. This helps determine the location, size and type of facilities required. Historically the Force may have documents that outline this operational decision, but will likely contain sensitive information linked to policing assets and capabilities etc.

In 2019 and again in early 2021 the Chief Constable informed the PCC that police premises of the size and scale in Marlborough were no longer required as there was sufficient alternative capacity in other parts of the police estate across the policing area. It was identified that a level of police presence for community engagement, officer welfare and continued front counter services was required.

As such, those services moved to the Corner House in Marlborough, with other police functions moving to other locations.

Marlborough Police site was closed for operational use later in 2021 and identified as suitable for disposal by the PCC. These processes consisted of extensive engagement with local partners at the time including the town council.

In preparation for disposal the Town Council were consulted and engaged on possible use of the site to align to the Local Plan. This occurred and work with other partners such as the NHS was held to identify if there was any interest in the site. This was no interest in this nature of this site.

As such the PCC marketed the site on the open market, based on outline planning permission for a residential development. This was conducted through a sealed bid process and the successful bidder was selected based on value and risk assessment of any conditions attached to the bid.

The PCC is obliged to achieve the best value for public money and policing and selects the highest bidder with acceptable conditions. This bid was subject to planning permission which the purchaser is working to obtain.