

**Information Governance Unit  
Information Management Branch**

27<sup>th</sup> October 2008

Dear XXXX

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: XXXX**

I write in connection with your request for information dated 27/09/2008, which was received by Greater Manchester Police on 29/09/2008. I note you seek access to the following information:

- **Full details of the amounts and value of property disposed of by the force in each of the last five years.**
- **I would like the response to include information on all items disposed of, including "Found Property", "Seized Property" and "Police Assets";**
- **The method of disposal, including public auctions, websites and sales to staff, etc;**
- **The proceeds from the property and how the money realised was used.**
- **I would prefer to receive the information in electronic format, to the enclosed email address. However, if it is more convenient, I would be happy to receive the information in hard copy format.**

Following receipt of your request searches were conducted within Greater Manchester Police to locate information relevant to your request. I can confirm that the information you have requested is held, in part, by Greater Manchester Police.

The cost of providing you with the information is above the amount to which we are legally required to respond i.e. the cost of locating and retrieving the information exceeds the 'appropriate level' as stated in the Freedom of Information (Fees and Appropriate Limit) Regulations 2004.

Over the last four years, GMP have handled 45,578 items of property that have either been auctioned, given to charity, destroyed etc. The Force introduced a centralised system for the recording of the disposal of these items four years ago therefore figures are given for the last four years only. The amounts these items sold for and the full description of the items are not held on a central electronic system. It would be necessary to manually review each record to obtain the monetary value and description.

In accordance with Section 16, Advice and Assistance, of the Act, please find below a graph showing how the 45,578 items were disposed of.

Method of Disposal	Year	Found Items	Seized Items
Auction	2004/05	282	258
	2005/06	304	181
	2006/07	278	163
	2006/08	284	159
Charity	2004/05	20	7
	2005/06	124	122
	2006/07	164	175
	2007/08	135	235
Destruction	2004/05	447	846
	2005/06	3030	7499
	2006/07	2813	4278
	2007/08	2761	7717
Returned to Finder	2004/05	38	N/A
	2005/06	241	N/A
	2006/07	204	N/A
	2007/08	140	N/A
Retained by Finder	2004/05	5	N/A
	2005/06	204	N/A
	2006/07	198	N/A
	2007/08	271	N/A
Returned to Owner	2004/05	241	390
	2005/06	1239	3612
	2006/07	613	2120
	2007/08	557	2692
Sold	2004/05	0	0
	2005/06	4	9
	2006/07	101	60
	2007/08	11	9
RDC	2004/05	0	0
	2005/06	0	24
	2006/07	91	91
	2007/08	89	42

N/A = not available

Those items listed as 'Sold' are items deemed inappropriate to sell at auction – for example scrap metal, lead etc. Those items listed 'RDC' include computers, laptops and mobile phones. These are sent to a specialist company to be cleansed and then either given to charity, returned to the force for re-use or sold.

#### Complaint Rights

Your attention is drawn to the attached sheet, which details your right of complaint.

Should you have any further inquiries concerning this matter, please write or contact me on telephone number 0161 856 2529 quoting the reference number above.

Yours sincerely

Information Access Officer

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