

**Information Governance Unit
Information Management Branch**

XXXX

20th September 2010

Dear XXXX

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: XXXX

I write in connection with your request for information dated 29/07/2010, which was received by Greater Manchester Police on 29/07/2010. I note you seek access to the following information:

1. How much did Greater Manchester Police spend in the operation to catch Raoul Moat up to and including the day of his death on Saturday 10 July?
2. Please provide a detailed breakdown of the costs that were incurred, i.e spending on armed units,
3. How many officers were deployed by Greater Manchester Police in the hunt for Raoul Moat?

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 by Greater Manchester Police.

Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires Greater Manchester Police, when refusing to provide such 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.

The exemption applicable to the information requested is Section 22(1)(a) – Information intended for future publication – of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

The exemption used is subject to a public interest test and in this case I would outline the relevant factors as:

The factors considering favouring the disclosure of the information requested is: that the date of the publication is in the future. Factors favouring non-disclosure are that there is a duty to provide this information to Northumbria Police Service first and that the publication is an expense to the force and spending of additional public funds to release Greater Manchester Police's information early and separate to Northumbria's publication would be wasteful.

To disclose the information prior to the publication by Northumbria Police Service would enable the public to become aware of the overtime costs incurred during this high profile investigation. The force also has to consider the non-disclosure of information and the effective and efficient conduct of the force and to duplicate the production of information is not a cost effective and efficient exercise for the force and would lead to excess spending of public funds. As previously stated this was a high profile investigation and is subject to an Independent Police Complaints Commission inquiry into the procedures followed by Northumbria Police throughout their dealings with Raoul Moat and it may be the case the

Information Governance Unit, Information Management Branch, Police Headquarters,

Chester House, Boyer Street, Manchester M16 0RE

Tel: 0161 856 2529/2668, Fax: 0161 856 2535, Minicom: 0161 872 6633,

Email: freedomofinformation@gmp.police.uk

Greater Manchester Police has a duty to present information to another body or person for scrutiny, therefore, disclosure at this time could harm this inquiry.

When balancing the public interest test Greater Manchester Police has to consider whether the information should be released into the public domain. Arguments need to be weighed against each other. The most persuasive reason for disclosing the information prior to publication is that there will be a better public awareness of the overtime costs to the force, which needs to be weighed against the strongest reason in favour of non-disclosure, which, in this case, is the efficient and effective running of the force and the excessive spending of public funds.

In accordance with the Act, this letter represents a Refusal Notice for this particular request.

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 on telephone number 0161 856 2529 quoting the reference number above.

Yours sincerely,

Information Access Officer

COMPLAINT RIGHTS

Are you unhappy with how your request has been handled or do you think the decision is incorrect?

You have the right to require Greater Manchester Police to review their decision.

Prior to lodging a formal complaint you are welcome and encouraged to discuss the decision with the case officer that dealt with your request.

Ask to have the decision looked at again –

The quickest and easiest way to have the decision looked at again is to telephone the case officer that is nominated at the end of your decision letter.

That person will be able to discuss the decision, explain any issues and assist with any problems.

Complaint

If you are dissatisfied with the handling procedures or the decision of Greater Manchester Police made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 regarding access to information, you can lodge a complaint with Greater Manchester Police to have the decision reviewed.

Complaints should be made in writing and addressed to:

Information Governance Manager
Greater Manchester Police
Police Headquarters
Chester House
Boyer Street
Manchester
M16 0RE

The Information Commissioner

After lodging a complaint with Greater Manchester Police if you are still dissatisfied with the decision you can make an application to the Information Commissioner for a decision on whether the request for information has been dealt with in accordance with the requirements of the Act.

For information on how to make an application to the Information Commissioner please visit their website at www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk. Alternatively, phone or write to:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF
Phone: 01625 545 700