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Date: 20/06/2023
Our ref: 2586/23

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FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: GSA REF 2586/23

I write in connection with your request for information dated 18/05/2023, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

I am currently researching the police response to illegal exhausts on vehicles, that is to say ones that have been modified to be louder than their original manufacture and thus breaching the Road Vehicles (Construction and Use) Regulations 1986 s 54(2).

Below is a link to a video to help you understand the sort of offence I am referring to.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4jH9dzTCT-k>

Clearly there are two potential scenarios where the register keeper is known and unknown when the VRM is supplied.

- 1. I would appreciate just a brief explanation as to what action the police would take if a member of the public called 101 with the VRM, reporting it for an illegal exhaust.*
- 2. Does your Chief Constable agree that such illegal exhausts may frighten horses putting lives and property at risk?*

Result of Searches

Following receipt of your request searches were conducted within Greater Manchester Police (GMP) to locate the requested information and I can confirm the information requested is held by GMP.

1. Whilst there is not a specific closing code on police incidents to monitor excessively noisy exhausts, all matters on anti-social driving or use of vehicles are recorded.

There are three ways in which a prosecution may be considered, those being a driver is found committing the offence by an officer. Then the officer would have the discretion as to what action would be taken.

The second being, a member of the public submits video footage to the police and action could be taken using that evidence.

The third being if an exhaust is regularly causing a noise nuisance to the owner's neighbours, the local authority may choose to take action. For further information on this, please contact your relevant local authority.

Further information on what happens when you report a crime to GMP can be found here: [What happens after you report a crime? | Greater Manchester Police \(gmp.police.uk\)](https://www.gmp.police.uk/what-happens-after-you-report-a-crime/)

2. This is not a valid request for information under S8(1)(c) of the Freedom of Information Act. For a request to be valid it must seek a form of actual recorded information. Opinions of individuals are not recorded information. Further advice on how to submit a valid request can be obtained from the Information Commissioners Office here: [How to access information from a public authority | ICO](https://ico.org.uk/for-the-public/making-a-request/)

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