



[REDACTED]

Date: 16/05/2023
Our ref: 1842/23

[REDACTED]

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: GSA 1842/23

I write in connection with your request for information dated 06/04/2023, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

[REDACTED]

This Freedom of Information Request for Data has been placed with 45 constabularies as part of a wider project.

[REDACTED]

Using the latest available data and going back to 2015, please provide a year-by-year breakdown by postcode of:

(a) all logged firearms incident reports

NOTE: If a Postcode for the above logged data is not recorded or available, please provide the data by Divisional Area Code and Beat Code

Following the processing of each of the above logged incidents, please provide the following data by Postcode:

- (b) Non-fatal injury by shooting*
- (c) Murder by shooting*

- (d) Firearms discharge
- (e) Firearms recovery following search
- (f) Ammunition recovery

NOTE: If a Postcode for the above logged data is not recorded or available, please provide the data by Divisional Area Code and Beat Code

Thank you for your time and consideration of this request.

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.

However, I am not obliged to provide you with this information as an exemption applies.

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

Question 2 has been exempted from disclosure by virtue of the following exemption:

Section 31(1)(a)(b) – Law enforcement

Section 31 is a qualified and prejudice-based exemption and as such, subject to a harm and public interest test.

Factors In Favour of Disclosing

This is an issue high on the public agenda and therefore the release of this information would contribute to an informed public debate. The release of this information may reassure the public that there are effective processes in place to ensure that people showing signs or indicators that they are intent to use violence or other illegal means are monitored effectively and assessed for the presence of vulnerability. Disclosure of the information would provide reassurance to the public that the Police have in place protocols to deal with these types of incidents and offences.

Factors Against Disclosure

Disclosure of the information could result in individuals being identified or even misidentified and therefore putting them at risk. Law enforcement tactics may be compromised which would hinder the prevention and detection of crime. More crime could be committed because criminals may know which forces are focusing on gun crime. This could enable those wishing to counter such activity to disrupt and jeopardise the successful delivery of ongoing work.

Balance Test

There is a public interest in the disclosure of information relating to gun crime amongst the general population which would improve public debate and provide transparency of policing

activity. However, this needs to be balanced against a very strong public interest in safeguarding the integrity of police investigations and operations in the highly sensitive area of the criminal use of firearms.

Considering all the circumstances of this case it is determined that the balance of the public interest favours withholding the information.

Complaint Rights

Your attention is drawn to the attached sheet, which details your right of complaint. Should you have any further queries please write to Freedomofinformation@gmp.police.uk quoting the reference above.

Yours sincerely,

Adam.
Information Compliance and Records Management Assistant.