

Date: 30/10/2023
Our ref: 01/FOI/23/011433/D

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/23/011433/D

I write in connection with your request for information dated 04/10/2023, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

1. *Please could you explain why the police were seen yesterday taking part in the forcible removal of Andrew Boff from the Suella Braverman speech at the Conservative Party Conference?*
2. *It is my understanding that he spoke out from the floor in defence of gay rights. Please could you confirm that this is your understanding of his intervention too?*
3. *Please could you state whether this is a crime?*
4. *Please could you state whether this is wrong?*
5. *Please could you state whether his actions were deemed to be in any way threatening to Ms Braverman or anyone else present?*
6. *Please could you state whether he did anything else which the a greater Manchester Police consider to be wrong?*
7. *Please could you state your role in relation to the Conservative Party Conference? Please could you state your role in removing people from it?*

8. *Please could you state whether, with hindsight, you consider your role in this incident to have been inappropriate?*

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.

Caveats

Information is defined in Section 84 of the Act as 'information recorded in any form'. The Act therefore only extends to requests for recorded information. It does not require public authorities to answer questions generally; only if they already hold the answers in recorded form. The Act does not extend to requests for information about policies or their implementation, or the merits or demerits of any proposal or action - unless, of course, the answer to any such request is already held in recorded form.

As such, within the spirit of the Act, only questions 1, 7 and 8 qualify as a request for information held.

Reply

1. *Police were in attendance at the Conservative Party Conference as part of the safety and security operation which include internal and external deployments for the venue, internally police were involved in supporting the Chief Party Steward and venue security within key speeches.*
7. *Police were in attendance at the Conservative Party Conference as part of the safety and security operation which include internal and external deployments for the venue, internally police were involved in supporting the Chief Party Steward and venue security within key speeches.*
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