

Our ref: 01/FOI/23/011451/F

Please quote our reference
number when responding

Tuesday, 31 October 2023

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/23/011451/F

I write in connection with your request for information dated 06/10/2023, I note you seek access to the following information:

1. *Have any consultations been carried out/ are any being carried out internally (within Greater Manchester Police) regarding the implementation of the Right Care, Right Person policy (RCRP)? If so, please provide evidence and the outcomes of these consultations.*
2. *Have any consultations been carried out/ are any being carried out with external parties regarding the implementation of RCRP? If so, please provide evidence and the outcomes of these consultations.*
3. *Before or during the implementation of RCRP, did Greater Manchester Police consider the potential impact of the programme on (a) people with mental illnesses and (b) people from ethnic minority backgrounds? If so, please provide evidence and any reports which were produced.*
4. *Were any equality impact assessments carried out by Greater Manchester Police before or during the implementation of RCRP? If so, please provide a copy of the assessments, their outcomes and details of how they were carried out.*
5. *Did Greater Manchester Police consider its public sector equality duty (section 149 Equality Act 2010) before or during the implementation of RCRP? If so, please provide evidence and any reports which were produced.*
6. *Please specify the number of detentions which took place under s.136 Mental Health Act 1983 each calendar year from 2016 to 2023 by Greater Manchester Police.*
7. *Please specify the number of times the emergency power under s.135 Mental Health Act 1983 was used each calendar year from 2016 to 2023 by Greater Manchester Police.*
8. *Were any policy, briefing or directions issued by Greater Manchester Police to emergency call handlers with regard to RCRP? If so, please provide these.*
9. *Were any policy, briefing or directions issued by Greater Manchester Police to police officers with regard to RCRP? If so, please provide these.*

Result of Searches

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.

1. Yes. Outcomes are in the process of being collated.
2. Yes. Outcomes are in the process of being collated.
3. This will form part of the EIA. No assessment document in place yet.
4. Yes. No assessment document in place yet.
5. This will be considered as part of the EIA. No assessment document in place yet.
6. & 7.

Caveats:

This data contains mental health encounters recorded between 1st January 2017 and 31st December 2022, where the action taken by the police was recorded as a Sec 136 detention or Sec 135 warrant under the Mental Health Act 1983. No complete data in 2016 is available and more recent data in 2023 is not yet available, therefore both years are not included in the table.

Mental health encounter data

Information about mental health encounters is collected for a mandatory annual return to the Home Office and the process is managed locally by each district. Staff complete a form for each mental health encounter, and the details from the forms are entered into a spreadsheet. The districts then send the spreadsheets to a dedicated Branch so the data can be aggregated for the Force as a whole.

We know that this data is of variable quality and difficult to aggregate for a number of reasons:

- There are missing submissions for some districts.
- It is very likely that some encounters have not been recorded in the spreadsheets, as the numbers for some districts are a lot lower than expected, and the process for recording and collecting this data is not straightforward.
- There may be duplicate records for some encounters.
- There is missing and invalid information for some encounters e.g. where fields have been left blank or completed incorrectly.
- Data collection and quality assurance processes have differed drastically over the years (with improvements in recent months/years) and data should therefore not be considered comparable over time.
- Data does not match that published by the Office of National Statistics for 2018-19 as this was submitted using data from NHS partners.

Calendar year	S136 detention	S135 warrant
2017	888	37
2018	869	17
2019	843	22
2020	1,312	49
2021	2,136	68
2022	1,946	82

Please note Home Office publishes annual statistics on detentions under the Mental Health Act 1983 under “Police powers and procedures: Other PACE powers, England and Wales” on:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/police-powers-and-procedures-england-and-wales>

- 8. These are in development.
- 9. These are in development.