

Date: 6th August 2024
Our ref: FOI/24/013059/E

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: FOI/24/013059/E

I write in connection with your request for information dated 05/08/2024, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

- 1. Stats on your internal disciplinary procedure and the number of them given to your officers and the reason they were given - I'm trying to establish the reasons for disciplinary hearings and the outcomes for officers - please provide these going back 5 years.***
- 2. Please provide your uniform standards for officers in uniform and plainclothes officers.***
- 3. Please can you tell me if officers on duty are allowed to wear political, social or other memorabilia which shows support for certain organisations, political parties or an ideology - examples: LGBT flags, Football bands, charities and other causes? - can a member of the public request an officer remove such items while on duty and should they not complain to the police?***
- 4. Please tell me your policy on officers identifying themselves to the public in uniform and plainclothes officers - what information do they have to provide to the public if requested and how many pieces of information have to be provided. - collar number, station, warrant card, etc***
- 5. Please tell me your policy on BWV when recording members of the public. Do you have to let the public know?***
- 6. Please can you confirm when it would be considered harassment of a member of the public by your officers should an officer approach a member of the public to engage and the member of the public does not wish to do so and is not committing a crime nor under any suspicion.***
- 7. Please can you confirm if you understand that members of the public can film anything they can see from public view and this includes members of the public filming a police station and officers coming and going?***

8. Can you confirm if you have Recieved the guidance from NPC regarding the terrorism act and how for members of the public to be under suspicion of breaking the act would need to be recording information covertly by nature?

9. Please can you confirm under what circumstances you are allowed to stamp on an attacker's head and not recieve any kind of penalty for doing so? If I was being attacked and then managed to fight back the attacker and immobilise them, would I be justified to then kick them in the head and stamp on them? Or would this be deemed as excessive as the attacker was already on the ground and disarmed?

10. Please provide stats on crimes reported which officers have attended and please include the ethnicity of the person reporting the said crime should you have this.

11. Please provide stats on any officers that have previously been dismissed, suspended with the force and have then been re employed. Please also provide the reason for the suspension or dismissal if you hold this and provide the data for the last 20 years.

12. Please provide stats for the number of officers that have had sexual assault or harassment alleged against them and how many of these were upheld and how many were not upheld. Please also provide me the outcome of the upheld complaints and if they resulted in dismissal, arrest or criminal prosecution and the outcome.

13. Can you confirm if the police have higher levels of harassment alarm or distress matrices compared to members of the public? I.e a member of the public would and could feel that before an officer would die to the nature of their job?

14. Please define and elaborate on the meaning of "reasonable suspicion" and how this is taught to officers. What would amount to reasonable suspicion?

15. Please can you confirm if a member of the public was openly recording a police station on a public pathway or road weather or not this would be enough grounds for "reasonable suspicion" to use the terrorism act, given they are not by nature recording covertly?

16. Please can I have the collar numbers and names of the officers in GMP that are dog handlers and an email address for them?

17. Please can you confirm the contact details for the DLO in GMP and their contact details if you hold them.

18. please confirm the fitness standards for police officers if any?

19. What is the policy on officers using their own personal mobile phones to obtain data from members of the public such as videos, images or notes? What does your privacy policy say about this and what is the legality of them doing so? How would I obtain such data and how would I know if that data is kept in accordance with the data protection act? What procedures do you have in place to recover lost or deleted data from such devices?

20. Please can you tell me your article 15 GDPR policy in releasing information to the public? What internal steps are taken to find and locate such data? Is all the data held on a subject in one place or do you need to search multiple systems? Would BWV be easy to find should it be requested?

21. Please can you tell me how many cells greater Manchester police has and break them down by each station? If you can't break them down a total number would do.

- 22. Please can you tell me what powers PCSO and special officers have? And what ID they have to provide if asked by a member of the public?**
- 23. Please can you tell me if a member of the public can perform a citizens arrest on an officer ?**
- 24. Please can you tell me the process that a member of the public needs to take to report a police officer for a traffic offence or defects with their car? I.e- If a member of the public found a police car to have incorrect depth in their tyres therefore meaning that the car wouldn't pass an MOT and would be subject to a road traffic offence. Please can you also confirm that the officer who was driving the car would be solely responsible and not GMP as the force?**
- 25. Please can I have a detailed list going back 5 years of all the traffic offences committed by your officers, the offence in question and the outcome of said offence. Please include all offences relating to a motor vehicle.**
- 26. Please can you tell me how many police vehicles have had the LGBT vinyl on them in the last 10 years and what the costs of this is to the public?**
- 27. Can you confirm if a member of the public does not wish to engage with the police when performing a lawful activity if this would provide you with reasonable grounds alone to search someone? If no suspicion or other grounds are met and it's solely for refusing to engage**
- 28. Can you confirm if members of the public is allowed to inspect a police vehicle for defects such as, bald tyres, damaged tyres, window tints etc should it be parked up and not causing any damage or harm and could evidence that they was inspecting the car for such defects?**
- 29. Please can you tell me under what circumstances that an officer can speed on a public highway when that is NOT an emergency and no blue lights are activated? Are the police allowed to speed on a public highway just because they are the police or do they need a reason and or special permission and under what conditions would that permission be granted?**
- 30. Please can you tell me how much money GMP has paid out to the public over the last 10 years for unlawfully arresting or detaining them? Can you also identify the arresting officer by collar number and provide that?**
- 31. Can you please explain the meaning of "detaining" someone and what rules must be followed when doing so?**

Result

A Public Authority is able to refuse requests which can divert resources away from more deserving requests and other public business or threaten to undermine the credibility of the freedom of information system. The legislation is not designed as a tool to be used on fishing expeditions and although free to the applicant, its delivery is not without cost to the authority, and therefore indirectly the taxpayer.

We have noted that you have submitted a request which includes 31 questions of differing subjects on 05/08/2024. Following further consideration to this request you have submitted, GMP are entitled to refuse any requests which we feel are overly burdensome to our organisation under section 14(1) of the Act, which states that requests that are considered to be vexatious, do not have to be complied with.

In line with ICO guidelines, Section 14(1) could be considered for the following reasons:

Burden on the authority

- Scattergun Approach – As the topic areas of each question varies wildly, this indicates that you are fishing for information. There is no direction to the request.
- No obvious intent to obtain information – It is considered that you are abusing your rights under the Act by putting in a request with an excessive number of questions all of differing subjects.
- Fishing Expedition – Again the ICO guidance highlights those random requests (or fishing expeditions), and their effect on the public authority, can be cause to make a request vexatious:

[Dealing With Vexatious Requests - ICO Website](#)

For this reason, your request is refused under section 14(1) of the Act, which states that requests that are considered to be vexatious do not have to be complied with.