



Date: 30/12/2024
Our ref: 01/FOI/24/013735/R

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/24/013735/R

I write in connection with your request for information dated 27/11/2024, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

Under the FOI Act, please provide me with the following information related to non-crime hate incidents:

The number of NCHIs recorded for the following periods:

November 1 2019 – October 31 2020

November 1 2020 – October 31 2021

November 1 2021 – October 31 2022

November 1 2022 – October 31 2023

November 1 2023 – October 31 2024

For the final period (November 1 2023 to October 31 2024), please provide a copy of the log by the force of all non-crime incidents including summary and outcome. Please redact any personal data from the records.

Result of Searches

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

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. However, I am not obliged to supply all the information you have requested as exemptions apply.

When refusing to provide such information because an exemption applies, Section 17(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires GMP, 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.

The requested information is exempt under **Section 14(1) – Vexatious Requests, Section 21 – Information accessible to applicant by other means** and **Section 22(1)(a) – Information Intended for Future Publication**. GMP publish our hate crime statistics on our website. [The information you have requested up to September 2024 can be found here.](#)

Information for October 2024 will be published on the afore mentioned website in due course. Consequently, this information is exempt under Section 22(1)(a). As Section 22(1)(a) is a qualified exemption a public interest test needs to be applied.

Factors Favouring Disclosure

Disclosure of the requested information at the present time would allow the public to have access to the information immediately, would enhance public knowledge of the subject and would promote the accountability and aid transparency of GMP.

Factors Favouring Non-Disclosure

Reviewing and formatting the data at the present time, in response to a Freedom of Information request, would be a duplication of work and would involve a disproportionate use of GMP resources and would not be an economical use of public funds. Additionally, should the data from the upcoming report be released prematurely, there is the possibility that it may contain inaccuracies if it has not been subject to full scrutiny procedures.

Balancing Test

When balancing the Public Interest Test, we must consider whether the Public Interest is best served by the release of the information into the public domain immediately or by the withholding of the information. Arguments need to be weighed against each other. The most persuasive reason for disclosure is the facilitation of transparency of GMP, which needs to be weighed against the strongest negative reason, which, in this case, is the disproportionate use of GMP resources and an uneconomical use of public funds. Therefore, the stance at this time is that the requested data is exempt from disclosure in response to a Freedom of Information request due to its future official publication by GMP.

Your request for the log for each NCHI is being refused due to the amount of time required to review and prepare the information for disclosure, which would impose a grossly oppressive burden on the organisation.

To provide the data requested would involve manual redactions to each piece of data in the MO Description Text as they do contain sensitive and personal information which could identify directly/indirectly a living human therefore Section 40(2) Personal Information will be engaged

as this represents information that identifies a living individual. To disclose this information would breach the principles of the GDPR and the Data Protection Act 2018.

Personal data is defined by Article 4 of the GDPR and Part 1 of the Data Protection Act 2018 and means any information relating to an identified or identifiable natural person ('data subject'). An identified natural person is one who can be identified directly or indirectly from that data.

As you can see from the published information on NCHIs, the number of incidents between November 2023 and September 2023 is 423. Therefore, at a very conservative estimate of 5 minutes to review and redact each piece of data in the MO Description Text, it would take approximately 36 hours to ascertain the data required for question 2. For this reason, any further requests of this nature will be 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.

In accordance with the S17 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, this letter acts as a Refusal Notice.