

Date: 05/12/2024
Our ref: 01/FOI/24/013760/S

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/24/013760/S

I write in connection with your request for information dated 02/12/2024, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

- 1. Do police officers receive training in the distribution/liking/sharing of satirical material on social media platforms and/or WhatsApp?***
- 2. What restrictions are placed on officers with regard to the mockery of former Presidents of the United States?***
- 3. Which section of the Code of Ethics addresses and restricts the use of satirical memes posted on WhatsApp or social media?***
- 4. Which section of the Code of Ethics, or GMP Policy, prohibits officers referring to Covid as being Chinese, or being of Chinese origin, either as a matter of fact, or as a satirical comment?***

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 some of the information requested is held by GMP.

1. We have a policy on Standards of Online Behaviour. It is mandatory for all police officers and staff to complete the associated e-learning. Standards of professional behaviour apply both on and off duty and include the use of both force and personal social media/ instant messaging apps.
2. There is no policy that directly relates to this question. This would be covered under the Standards of Professional Behaviour For Police Officers which states - Police officers must

behave in a manner which does not discredit the police service or undermine public confidence in it, whether on or off duty.

3. See response to question 2.
4. See response to question 2.