

Date: 11/07/2024
Our ref: 01/FOI/24/012896/D

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/24/012896/D

I write in connection with your request for information dated 05/07/2024, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

By way of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I would like to request the following information concerning the unsolved murder of [REDACTED], who was found shot dead in her home [REDACTED]:

- how many reviews of the case have been carried out? In each instance, please indicate the type of review that was undertaken, and the dates in which they were carried out.***
- for each review, please provide any reports, memos, or correspondence outlining the findings of said review.***
- please provide any memos or correspondence sent to or received from Northern Constabulary, regarding possible connections between this case and other murders.***
- please provide any memos or correspondence sent to or received from Northern Constabulary, regarding possible connections between this case and the [REDACTED], [REDACTED]***

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.

However, I am not obliged to supply this information held as an exemption applies. The request is exempt from disclosure by virtue of the following exemption:

Section 30(1) – Investigations and Proceedings Conducted by Public Authorities

Section 30 is a class based qualified exemption; there is a requirement to carry out a public interest test.

Section 30 - Factors Favouring Disclosure

To disclose details of any open/ongoing investigations, into the public domain, would show GMP's accountability, and satisfy the public, that investigations into such incidents are being conducted correctly. It would also show GMP's use of public funds in apprehending suspects of crimes.

Section 30 - Factors Favouring Non-Disclosure

Conversely to the factors in favour of disclosure, to publicly release the data that is related to investigations that remain open may seriously undermine GMP's ability to complete those investigations to a full and correct conclusion.

Balancing Test

When balancing the public interest test GMP must consider whether the information should be released into the public domain, therefore arguments need to be weighed against each other. The most persuasive reason for disclosing the information would be the fact that disclosure would encourage transparency. This needs to be weighed against the strongest reason for non-disclosure, which in this case is the impact on GMP's ability to complete investigations to a full and correct conclusion. Therefore, having considered all the factors for and against disclosure it is the decision at this time to maintain the above exemption and withhold the information from disclosure.