



Date: 17/06/2024
Our ref: 01/FOI/24/012613/E

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/24/012613/E

I write in connection with your request for information dated 10/05/2024, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

I am working as a research associate at Cardiff University. I am currently working on a randomized controlled trial which looks to explore whether the ADVANCE-D intervention is better at reducing domestic abuse than standard probation interventions in population of men who use substances.

Probation Delivery Units (PDU) will be randomized to deliver ADVANCE intervention or 'treatment as usual' in England, Wales and Scotland. The 'treatment as usual' will be measured but not consistent across the three countries. The Court Order in itself does not mean that the men will be eligible. Probation officers will assess whether the men will be suitable to the trial. The men will consent to participate in the trial and not whether they will receive control or ADVANCE intervention. It is anticipated that Manchester Probation services will be part of the trial.

Please see below link for further information

£3.2m funding to test the ADVANCE-D Programme for men with substance use problems serving community sentences for partner abuse - King's College London (kcl.ac.uk)

Two years into the trial, we would like to approach local police forces to gather objective data on incidents, crimes, arrests and outcome of participants in the ADVANCE-D trial (with the

participant's consent). It would be very much appreciated if you could kindly advise me on procedure of applying for access to police data as we are working towards a tight deadline.

I also note your clarification, dated 14/05/2024:

As part of the ADVANCE-D trial, 24 months into the project we would like the following specific information on individual **male participants who participated in the trial to measure long term outcomes (those who have been convicted of domestic abuse offences and using substances)** :

- Incidents reported to the police that concern the male participants' crimes, arrests and outcomes.
- Any contact of male participants with the police
- Charges made against male participants.
- Crimes that have been recorded by police but have not necessarily led to a prosecution.
- Police arrests of the male participants
- Outcomes

As the request is for information related to individual information of participants in the clinical trial, would the Information Sharing Agreement with Greater Manchester Police be the more appropriate pathway? If so could you kindly advise me of the process to apply for the Information Sharing Agreement?

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. However, I am not obliged to supply you with the information as an exemption applies.

Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires Greater Manchester Police, when refusing to provide such information (because this information is exempt) 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 information you have requested is exempt from disclosure by virtue of the following exemption: **Section 40(2) – Personal Information.**

Where Section 40 has been used, 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.

In accordance with the Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, this letter acts as a Refusal Notice.

A Freedom of Information Act request is not a private transaction. Both the request itself and any information disclosed, are considered suitable for open publication. This is because under the Act, any information disclosed is released into the wider public domain, effectively to the

world, not just to an individual. A more appropriate approach to obtaining this information may be to apply for an Information Sharing Agreement or a Research Agreement.

An ISA / RA is put in place following the below steps;

- 1) The 3rd party would require approval for their project / initiative from GMP.
- 2) A business area is assigned (whichever area / department this project best sits with), they would then work with the third party and a named Single Point of Contact (SPOC) appointed.
- 3) A Data protection impact assessment (DPIA) is completed by the SPOC and sent to the data protection mailbox for review and sign off.
- 4) Once the DPIA has been signed off by the Data Protection Officer, an ISA/RA will then be drafted by the Compliance officer from Data Protection and sent to the SPOC and 3rd party for review sign off.

There is some publicly available information relating to Research Proposals on the GMP website [Submitting a research proposal | Greater Manchester Police \(gmp.police.uk\)](https://gmp.police.uk/research-proposals).