

Date: 09/06/2024
Our ref: 01/FOI/24/012695/W

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/24/012695/W

I write in connection with your request for information dated 28/05/2024, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

Paragraphs below provided as excerpts from the Home Office document, "Revised Code of Practice for the exercise of stop and search powers under sections 43, 43A and 43C" etc Dated October 2022

Terrorism is defined by section 1 of the Terrorism Act 2000. In summary the term "terrorism" in the 2000 Act means the use or threat of action where:

- the action used or threatened:***
 - involves serious violence against a person or serious damage to property;***
 - endangers a person's life, other than that of the person committing the action;***
 - creates a serious risk to the health or safety of the public or a section of the public; or***
 - is designed seriously to interfere with or seriously to disrupt an electronic system.***

**** the use or threat is designed to influence the government or an international governmental organisation, or to intimidate the public or a section of the public; and***

**** the use or threat is made for the purpose of advancing a political, religious, racial, or ideological cause.***

A police officer may stop and search a person under section 43(1) of the Terrorism Act 2000 if they reasonably suspect that the person is a terrorist, to discover whether or not they have in their possession anything which may constitute evidence that they are a terrorist. This power may be used at any time or in any place when the threshold of reasonable suspicion is met. No authorisation is required.

Context #2

The document issued by the NPCC, December 2021 entitled "Auditors / Social Media Bloggers - Initial Guidance version 1.4. Authored by Helen Maunder

Reference Section 1.4

Auditors/Bloggers should not be confused with hostile reconnaissance which by its nature is covert. Hostile reconnaissance will cover and test

- ***Security vulnerabilities***
- ***Patrol routes***
- ***Shift patterns***
- ***Layout of a venue***
- ***Security practices***

If you have reasonable suspicion that it is hostile reconnaissance please report into your regional counter terrorism unit.

Freedom of Information request

The first document sets out the threshold for what does or does not constitute a terrorist threat, whilst the second document sets out what is or is not hostile reconnaissance.

- 1. Are both of these documents available to your senior officers***
- 2. Are both of these documents used in the training & development of your front line officers when dealing with "auditors" or those filming in a public place, be that the subject is a police station, police vehicles or police officers.***
- 3. How many times have your officers reported possible terrorist activity to your local or regional Counter Terrorism Unit from January 2023 to January 2024***
- 4. With regards to #3 how many times was this reported BEFORE contact was made by the officer on the ground.***
- 5. With regards to #3 how many times was this reported AFTER contact was made by the officer on the ground.***
- 6. What is the total amount paid my your police force in compensation to members of the public for wrongful arrest or unlawful detention from January 2022 to January 2024***

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Result of Searches

Following receipt of your request searches were conducted within Greater Manchester Police (GMP) to locate the requested information and I cannot confirm all the information requested is held by GMP.

For GMP to be able to provide a response to question 6, it would require a manual review of all the relevant files during Jan 22 – Jan 24. Initial searches for this question revealed approximately 442 files that will all need a manual interrogation. A public liability claim will generally consist of several heads of loss (e.g. false imprisonment, assault / battery, trespass to property etc). In cases where GMP pay compensation, we do not record a breakdown of which head of loss that payment relates to, and so we would therefore need to manually review each file to see what compensation paid and what it was related too. With a conservative estimate of around 10minutes for each log, it is anticipated it will take approximately 73hrs to answer question 6 alone.

Therefore, as per **section 12(1)** of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the cost of providing you with the information is above the amount to which we are legally required to respond i.e. the cost of locating and retrieving the information exceeds the 'appropriate level' as stated in the Freedom of Information (Fees and Appropriate Limit) Regulations 2004.

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

GMP is obligated, pursuant to section 16(1) of the Act to provide you with advice and assistance on refining your request to bring compliance within the fees limit. In order for the force to keep this within the fees limit, the information that you are requesting will need to be reduced. Question 6 will need to be reduced to a much shorter time period or removed from this request in order for us to conduct the relevant searches for the remaining questions. The resulting response cannot be guaranteed at this point as it will be dependent upon the number of records that fall within the scope of any new request, as they would still have to be manually assessed.

Should you wish to refine and resubmit your request in line with the advice above please respond to freedomofinformation@gmp.police.uk.