



Date: 18/10/2024
Our ref: 01/FOI/24/013087/I

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/24/013087/I

I write in connection with your request for information dated 09/08/2024, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

We write in relation to police force and CPS decisions to investigate, arrest and prosecute/charge people with offences under ss58, 59 and 60 of the Offences Against the Person Act 1861, and under s1 of the Infant Life (Preservation) Act 1929, between 2019 and 2024. We request from you, under the Freedom of Information Act 2000:

- 1. Copies of any policy or guidance, whether formal or informal, regarding decisions to investigate, arrest and prosecute individuals in connection with the offences referred to above.*
- 2. Any memorandum of understanding between your individual police force and the CPS in relation to the offences referred to above, for example with regard to the operation of the CPS Code for Crown Prosecutors public interest test.*
- 3. All communication between your individual force and the CPS with regards to the operation of policy, whether formal or informal, and/or the development of policy, including informal policy, regarding decisions to investigate, arrest and prosecute/charge individuals in connection with the offences referred to above.*
- 4. All records, such as meeting minutes and communications by email, of discussions at the supervisory level, reviewing and/or making decisions to seek advice with regards to the investigation, arrest and prosecution/charge of individuals in connection with the offences referred to above, and specifically any communications at supervisory level.*
- 5. All communications internally within the force regarding media strategy related to the investigation, arrest and prosecution/charge of individuals for the offences.*

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, Greater Manchester Police does not hold the information that you have requested in an easily retrievable format. To provide the data requested in question 4 alone would involve a manual search of all communications between the individuals involved in these cases to establish if they are relevant to this request.

Therefore, I anticipate that to comply with the whole of your request the process would take over 18 hours' work which exceeds the appropriate limit of £450.00, the amount to which we are legally required to respond.

As per section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the cost of providing you with the information is therefore 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 to a greatly reduced time period. 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

Although excess costs remove GMP's obligations under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, as a gesture of goodwill (see below information), I have supplied information, relative to your request, that was retrieved / available before it was realised that the fees limit would be exceed. I trust this is helpful, but it does not affect our legal right to rely on the fees regulations for the remainder of your request.

2. This information is not held by GMP. No such memorandum of understanding exists.

5. This information is not held by GMP. No such media strategy exists, therefore there are no communications that are relevant to this request.