



Date: 29/10/2024
Our ref: 01/FOI/24/013411/A

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/24/013411/A

I write in connection with your request for information dated 07/10/2024, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

FOI request on facial recognition

Information for a period from the start of 2020 up until the current date, with it broken down by year, or in any other way which is convenient.

1. *The number of times facial recognition has been deployed by your police force.*
2. *The number of faces which have been scanned by your police force as part of the deployment of facial recognition technology.*

I also note your clarification provided in your email dated 10/10/2024:

In relation to my previous request, I am aware of the need for more clarity.

I am looking for instances where live facial recognition cameras are used - as opposed to other types of facial recognition.

I also used the term 'deployment'. On this, I would like information on any use of this technology. I would not like it limited to instances where officers or equipment had to be sent to a certain location (as the word 'deployment' may be taken to mean).

Thank you for your help with this.

Result of Searches

Following receipt of your request searches were conducted within Greater Manchester Police to locate information relevant to your request. I can confirm that the information you have requested is held by Greater Manchester Police. However, I am not obliged to supply all the information you have requested as exemptions apply.

When refusing to provide such information because an exemption applies, Section 17(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires GMP, 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 requested information is exempt under **Section 21 – Information accessible to applicant by other means.**

The issue of live facial recognition technology use has been addressed in this previous FOI request: <https://www.gmp.police.uk/SysSiteAssets/foi-media/greater-manchester/disclosure-2024/february/foi-24.011858.t-facial-recognition.pdf>