

Date: 10/09/2024
Our ref: 01/FOI/24/013163/D

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/24/013163/D

I write in connection with your request for information dated 23/08/2024, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 (PACE)- Code A

4.2 Record of Search

4.3 Giving Name and Address etc.

- 1. As officers no longer carry paper forms what instructions have been issued for getting them at station desks in respect of presenting a receipt for a full record.***
- 2. 1 Do they need to surrender their Name and address and photographic identification to receive it.***
- 3. 2 The front desk at Wiggan Station told a person that they will not supply it but he can apply online but he must give his full detail.. Does this not breach PACE***
- 4. 3 Is this procedure in place to circumvent the requirement in 4.3 and obtain details***

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.

1. Whilst the vast majority of Stop Searches are now recorded digitally, officers still have access to the established Stop Search paperwork/forms. If a member of the public requests a written record of the search, a paper copy can be issued.
2. Photographic identification is not a prerequisite for a Copy of a Search record being provided at the front desk.

3. This is not Force Policy. Members of the Public who have been subject to a Stop Search encounter are entitled to request a copy of their Stop Search Record by attending at a Police Station Enquiry Office Counter during operating hours. If they believe they have been prevented from accessing a search record, they are advised to contact us by Calling 101, or using our Online Complaints Form; attending a Local Station in person, or writing to us at Professional Standards Branch Investigations, Greater Manchester Police, Openshaw Complex, Lawton Street, Manchester, M11 2NS
4. With few exceptions (which can be found <https://www.gmp.police.uk/advice/advice-and-information/st-s/stop-and-search/stop-and-search-process/> , at Greater Manchester Police's Stop & Search page), every person who is Stopped & Searched should be offered one of the following
 - a written record of the stop and search
 - a receipt at the time of the event
 - a copy of the record emailed to them
 - information on where to collect the record later

It is **not** Force Policy to restrict members of the public receiving details of their search only via an online application. The long-established method of attending at a police station and beginning the process of requesting such a copy still remains – and this is compatible with our requirements under The Equality Act 2010.