

Date: 19th September 2024
Our ref: FOI/24/013277/M

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: FOI/24/013277/M

I write in connection with your request for information dated 17/09/2024, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

I'm looking for the details of the dedicated football officer or special point of contact who covers Manchester United.

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.

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.

Section 40 is an absolute exemption with no requirement to complete a public interest test.

The disclosure of this information constitutes personal data and is therefore exempt from disclosure. 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.

Section 40(2) of the FOIA, as to disclose this information would contravene the first of the data protection principles. This states that personal data should be processed lawfully, fairly and in a transparent manner. It is the fairness aspect of this principle which, in our view, would be breached by disclosure. In such circumstances Section 40 confers an absolute exemption on disclosure and therefore there is no requirement for us to conduct a public interest test.