

Date: 10th April 2025
Our ref: FOI/25/014558/V

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: FOI/25/014558/V

I write in connection with your request for information dated 08/04/2025, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

I write to request information and records under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA), regarding the use of facial recognition technology.

Questions 1-6 relate to the period from January 2023 to present.

- 1. Has Greater Manchester Police deployed live facial recognition?**
 - a. Please provide dates and locations for each deployment.**
- 2. Has Greater Manchester Police used any form of retrospective facial recognition?**
 - a. Please specify whether this is via the Police National Database (PND), any other database, or a combination.**
 - b. If any database other than the PND was accessed for the purposes of retrospective facial recognition, please specify the database(s) and the number of searches that have been conducted.**
- 3. Has Greater Manchester Police deployed operator initiated facial recognition?**
 - a. Please provide dates and locations for each deployment.**
- 4. Has Greater Manchester Police deployed any form of facial recognition in conjunction with body-worn video?**
 - a. Please provide dates and locations for each deployment.**
- 5. Where live facial recognition has been used:**
 - a. How many individuals were on the watchlist used in each instance?**
 - b. How many of those on the watchlist were not wanted for arrest in each instance?**
 - c. For what reasons were these people included?**

6. ***At each deployment, how many alerts were generated?***
 - a. ***How many of these were true alerts (confirmed and unconfirmed) and how many were false alerts (confirmed and unconfirmed)?***
 - b. ***Please provide the engagement outcomes for each deployment, showing how many resulted in arrest, other disposal, or no action.***
7. ***Does Greater Manchester Police plan to deploy live facial recognition?***
 - a. ***If so, please specify dates and locations of any planned trials or deployments.***
8. ***Does Greater Manchester Police plan to deploy operator initiated facial recognition?***
 - a. ***If so, please specify dates and locations of any planned trials or deployments.***
9. ***Please provide any internal policy document, guidelines or legal basis governing Greater Manchester Police's use of facial recognition technology, including any Data Protection Impact Assessment.***

If providing this information would trigger the cost exemption, please let me know as soon as possible, and I will refine my request. If this request is unclear, I would be grateful if you could contact me, and I will clarify. I understand that under FOIA you are required to advise and assist requesters. If any of this information is already in the public domain, please direct me to it.

I understand that you may redact exempted information in documents, but ask that you show where redactions have been made and give the justification, and remind you that the time taken for redactions does not usually contribute towards the cost cap under FOIA.

I look forward to your response within 20 working days.

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.

Question 1 – No

Question 2 – Yes

Question 2a – PND

Question 3 – No

Question 4 – No

Question 5 – N/A

Question 6 – N/A

Question 7 – Yes

Question 7a – GMP are currently undertaking engagement surrounding our intention to deploy Live FR on an overt manner only within Greater Manchester.

Question 8 – Not currently

Question 9 – All documentation is currently being drafted and not yet finalised.