

Date: 01/12/2025
Our ref: 01/FOI/25/015766/F

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/25/015766/F

I write in connection with your request for information dated 01/12/2025, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

Please provide any policy documents, training materials, or guidance concerning cooperation with overseas law-enforcement agencies (including the Australian Federal Police) and GMP's obligations under the UN Convention Against Torture.

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 some of the information you have requested is held by GMP.

No information is held by GMP concerning policies, training materials or guidance concerning co-operation with foreign law enforcement agencies. Some information may be available from the College of Policing.

No specific training materials or policies are held by GMP relating to the UN Convention Against Torture. The following is guidance issued in relation to GMP's Right Care Right Person policy and how it relates to Article 3 of the European Convention of Human Rights. Whilst this guidance doesn't specifically mention the UN Convention, it does cover the right not to be subject to torture:

Article 3 ECHR

"No one shall be subjected to torture or to inhumane or degrading treatment or punishment".

Conduct qualifying under Article 3 may include being subjected to serious violence/serious injury, being the victim of sexual offending.

Duty of care under Article 3 ECHR

Article 3 ECHR protects against 'inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment' and torture.

For a duty to arise, the ill treatment to which the person is at 'real and immediate risk' must be of such severity as to fall within the scope of Article 3. This will depend on all the circumstances – principally the duration of the treatment, its physical or mental effects and, in some cases, the sex, age and state of health of the victim.

What does this mean for you when you take a RCRP call?

Make sure you ask and consider the assessment tool question.

Is police action required NOW?

To address a real, immediate risk to life or of serious harm to any group or person, identified or otherwise, OR to prevent a child from suffering or being likely to suffer significant harm.

Gather all the information you can so a thorough risk assessment / THRIVE assessment can be made.

This is professional curiosity. Record the information fully and make a strong decision.

Remember:

Real risk is one that is objectively verified and not remote or fanciful.

Immediate risk is one that is present and continuing; happening now rather than a future threat or a conditional one.

Significant harm in relation to children is not officially set but is a slightly lower threshold than Articles 2 and 3 so please use your professional judgement.

By making these hard decisions, you will ensure the police are deployed to only the most serious and ongoing matters, and that the individual involved gets the right support from the right partner.

Make sure you add the RCRP qualifier and closing codes.