



Date: 01/12/2025
FOI: 01/FOI/25/015893/L

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/25/015893/L

I write in connection with your request for information dated 21/11/2025, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

Q1 For 2024 and 2025 to date, all electronic correspondence (including copies of any attachments to emails) from and to the force's central FOI/EIR and DPA teams regarding requests for so-called takedowns, i.e. requests to remove part or all of an FOI/EIR request or response, from the WhatDoTheyKnow website.

Q2 For any takedown requests identified in Q1 was there any related correspondence with the NPCC Central Referral Unit/the National Police Freedom of Information and Data Protection Unit or the Information Commissioner's Office?

If so, please provide copies.

Result of Searches

GMP cannot confirm if it holds all the information that you have requested without conducting a thorough search on your behalf. GMP would be required to undertake a substantial review to see if we hold the information relating to your request.

GMP would not hold any information of this nature in one central location as anyone from the force would be able to contact either party. While the Information Access Unit within GMP would be the main source of contact with such sites under the freedom of information banner, to know if any correspondence from anywhere across GMP including on chat functions to the WhatDoTheyKnow /mySociety platforms would require a manual review by contacting every unit, and possibly each individual officer and staff member to ask them to perform a search and the same would apply for any that reference and are connected to the ICO and NPCC.

Due to the broadness of this request, and the level of work required, to confirm whether the information is held would take over 18 hours. Therefore, as per **Section 12(2)** of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the cost of searching for the information is above the amount to which we are legally required to respond i.e. the cost of locating the information exceeds the 'appropriate level' as stated in the Freedom of Information (Fees and Appropriate Limit) Regulations 2004.

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000, this letter acts as a Refusal Notice.

In this instance, due to the scale of review for this request, Greater Manchester Police will be unable to provide advice for you to reduce the request for the force to keep this within the fees limit in accordance with Section 16(1), the duty to provide advice and assistance, of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.