

**Date:** 03/12/2025  
**Our ref:** 01/FOI/25/015785/I

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/25/015785/I**

I write in connection with your request for information dated 05/11/2025, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

*I am requesting the following information, under the Freedom of Information Act because I cannot find it on your website.*

- 1. How many combustion engine vehicles do you have in your fleet, please break these down into the following**
  - a. Patrol and Response Cars**
  - b. Unmarked Vehicles**
  - c. Public Order Vehicles**
  - d. Motorcycles**
- 2. How many Electric vehicles do you have in your fleet, please break these down into the following**
  - a. Patrol and Response Cars**
  - b. Unmarked Vehicles**
  - c. Public Order Vehicles**
  - d. Motorcycles**
- 3. If you have electric vehicles in your fleet, how many dedicated charging spots do you have?**
- 4. What plans have you made to move towards an electric fleet, or to expand your already existing one? (please send any records of conversations and emails about this)**
- 5. How much investment into the entire fleet has been made? Please break this down into the respective years**
  - a. 2019**
  - b. 2020**
  - c. 2021**
  - d. 2022**
  - e. 2023**
  - f. 2024**

**6. How much investment is going / has gone into moving towards an electric fleet?  
Please break this down into the respective years.**

- a. 2019**
- b. 2020**
- c. 2021**
- d. 2022**
- e. 2023**
- f. 2024**

**7. What is the deadline for your force to move to an all electric fleet?**

**8. Please send me any record of contingency plans in case you can't meet your deadline?**

### **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.

However, I am not obliged to supply all the information requested as exemption applies for **questions 1, 2, 4, 5 and 6.**

Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires GMP, when refusing to provide such information (because the 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. The information you have requested in questions 1, 2, 5, 8 and the electric vehicle element of question 9 is exempt under **Section 31(1) – Law Enforcement.**

**Section 31** is a qualified, and prejudice-based exemption. Therefore, the harm should be articulated, and arguments given as to the public interest test.

### **Harm**

Disclosure of full information on fleet, such as the number of vehicles in GMP's fleet, could be of intelligence value to a person or persons with criminal or malicious intent. Full disclosure could provide and enable targeted malicious actions. The safety of the public is of a paramount importance to Greater Manchester Police and to release the number of vehicles owned by GMP, and in this case electric vehicles and combustion engine vehicles would compromise the safety of the public that Greater Manchester Police serve to protect.

Furthermore, this would impact on the law enforcement capabilities of Greater Manchester Police in the prevention and detection of crime and the apprehension or prosecution of offenders. This would also give an advantage to those intent on committing crimes and avoid detection. Additionally, law enforcement tactics and operational capability would be compromised with the disclosure of the number vehicles GMP own as those who wish to commit criminal acts will be more aware of what vehicles may belong to the force, that assist with preventing and detecting crime.

Those intent on committing crime may use the information to understand operational numbers for events and other instances where the police may be called to protect the public.

### **Factors favouring disclosure under Section 31**

There is a legitimate public interest in the public being satisfied that the Police force has up to date and well-maintained vehicles to deliver services to the public when and where required. The release of the number of electric vehicles would demonstrate the openness of the organisation to make such matters public.

The disclosure of information relating to the number of vehicles owned would adhere to the general principle of openness and transparency and better inform the public about how public funds are spent and better awareness which may reduce crime or lead to more information

from the public.

### **Factors favouring non-disclosure under Section 31**

The Police service has a duty to deliver effective law enforcement ensuring that the prevention and detection of crime, apprehension or prosecution of offenders and administration of justice is carried out appropriately. Disclosing any information that would allow the identification of all vehicles may reveal what resources are available for a given role and this information could enable police strength to be determined and circumvented by those intent on committing crime. The release of this information could therefore provide a tactical advantage to offenders which would negatively impact on public safety and undermine the policing purpose.

Any disclosure of information which is likely to undermine the Police Service's ability to serve the public in preventing and detecting crime can only be considered as being harmful to the public.

### **Balance Test**

It is not in the public interest for law enforcement tactics and operational capability to be compromised with the disclosure of all Fleet details, as those who wish to commit criminal acts will be more aware of the vehicles in operation to assist with preventing and detecting crime.

Such disclosure that would allow those with criminal intent the ability to build up a mosaic picture of force capabilities and resources which could be used to undermine law enforcement.

This would not be in the public interest. Disclosure is also not in the public interest as it places the community at increased unnecessary risk of harm and impact police resources. This is especially the case if additional tactics/resources need to be put in place to counter harm caused by an adverse FOIA request regarding police vehicles.

Therefore, at this moment in time, it is our opinion that the balance test favours against the disclosure of the information requested.

**Please see the remaining responses below.**

### **Question 3.**

18

### **Question 7.**

The current strategy is being compiled currently, which will inform a deadline when agreed.

### **Question 8.**

The current strategy is being compiled currently, which will inform and include contingency plans when agreed.