

Date: 05/12/2025
Our ref: 01/FOI/25/015938/H

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/25/015938/H

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

I seek information on the use of live and retrospective Facial Recognition Technology [FRT] in policing large public events, and especially football matches.

- 1. How often has live FRT been deployed on police vehicles outside of football matches since 11 August 2023?***
- 2. How does the police department determine whether live FRT will be deployed?***
- 3. Do police provide advance notice to ticket holders and football clubs before live FRT is deployed?***
- 4. How many arrests have been made following the use of live FRT when deployed outside of football matches, or retrospective FRT when deployed at or outside football matches, since the football season starting 11 August 2023?***
- 5. 2.1 How many such arrests (i.e., arrests made as a result of live or retrospective FRT) led to the issuance of a football banning order?***
- 6. When issuing new football banning orders, do police consider information from football clubs?***
- 7. When monitoring outside of football matches with live FRT, do police share images of people identified with live FRT with football clubs?***
- 8. Are people with active or expired banning orders added to a database used in conjunction with live or retrospective FRT when deployed for other law enforcement purposes?***
- 9. In particular, are such people added to a database used for live or retrospective FRT at any other public events?***
- 10. Have there been any incidents of misidentification as a result of FRT deployed outside of public events since 2023?***

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.

Please note –

Information is defined in section 84 of the Act as '**information recorded in any form**'. The Act therefore only extends to requests for recorded information. It does not require public authorities to answer questions generally; only if they already hold the answers in recorded form. The Act does not extend to requests for information about policies or their implementation, or the merits or demerits of any proposal or action - unless, of course, the answer to any such request is already held in recorded form.

As such, within the spirit of the Act, only questions 1-6 and question 10 qualify as a request for information held.

1. To date LFR has not been deployed at Football Matches – Further information on deployments can be found here - [Live Facial Recognition | Greater Manchester Police](#)
2. LFR is a tactical option for district commanders to use if other available tactics have been tried and still not resolved the current issues.
3. All deployments will be advertised on GMP website as well as Social Media.
4. No information held.
5. No information held.
6. No information held.
7. N/A
8. N/A
9. N/A
10. No.