

Date: 17/12/2025
Our ref: 01/FOI/25/016008/E

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/25/016008/E

I write in connection with your request for information dated 15/12/2025, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

- 1. How many people within the passed 12 months have north west counter terrorism police investigated and or arrested and or charged and or been reported to north east counter terrorism police that have or suggest that have adhd and or autism?***
- 2. Can you also provide any policies or guidelines you have that are specific to dealing with people you interact with that have adhd and or autism?***

Clarification of Q2 - I mean coming into contact with what is believed or possibly believed to be an offender under any of the terrorism acts/laws. Includes all of the process of the investigation regardless of the outcome/conclusion of investigation. The subject rather than someone reporting a subject or associated to the subject and or effected by the subject.

Result of Searches

Greater Manchester Police neither confirms nor denies that it holds information relevant to this request by virtue of the following exemptions:

**Section 24(2) – National security
Section 31(3) – Law enforcement**

Any disclosure under FOI is a release to the public at large. Under the Act, we cannot, and do not request the motives of any application for information. We have no doubt that the vast majority of requests made under the Act are legitimate and the applicants do not have any ulterior motives. Whilst not questioning the motives behind this specific request, confirming or denying that information is held would cause operational harm and affect our ability to fulfil our core function of law enforcement in the future.

Confirming or denying whether individuals with specific conditions have been subject to counter-terrorism investigations could reveal sensitive operational details and undermine policing capabilities.

Any information identifying the focus of policing activity could be used to the advantage of terrorists or criminal organisations. Information that undermines the operational integrity of these activities will adversely affect public safety and have a negative impact on both National Security and Law Enforcement.

Factors favouring Confirming or Denying for Section 24 - The public are entitled to know what public funds are spent on and what measures are in place in protecting national security. Any confirmation or denial would lead to a better informed public.

Factors against Confirming or Denying for Section 24 - By confirming or denying whether any information is held would render policing and security measures less effective. This would lead to the compromise of ongoing or future operations to protect the security or infrastructure of the UK and increase the risk of harm to the public.

Factors favouring Neither Confirming or Denying for Section 31 - Confirming or denying whether northwest counter terrorism police investigated and or arrested and or charged and or been reported to north east counter terrorism police that have or suggest that have adhd and or autism would provide an insight into the Police Service. This would enable the public to have a better understanding of the effectiveness of the police and about how the police operate. It would greatly assist in the quality and accuracy of public debate, which could otherwise be steeped in rumour and speculation. Where public funds are being spent, there is a public interest in accountability and justifying the use of public money.

Furthermore, should any policy or guidance exist, by releasing this to the wider world relating to how GMP interact with individuals we believed to be an offender under any of the terrorism acts/laws would undermine the effectiveness of the processes put in place to tackle this area of crime and to protect the public.

Factors against Confirming or Denying for Section 31 - Confirming or denying that information is held relating to the condition of any suspect may indicate that these conditions are monitored or relevant to counter-terrorism work, which could lead to speculation about investigative methods. This would ultimately impact any law enforcement strategies. It has been recorded that FOIA releases are monitored by criminals and terrorists and so to confirm or deny information is held concerning this request would lead to law enforcement being undermined.