



Date: 06/03/2025
Our ref: 01/FOI/25/014152/D

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/25/014152/D

I write in connection with your request for information dated 06/03/2025, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

Please can you tell me why the online form for reporting road traffic offences has changed recently?

When filling in 'Your Role' yourself as a reporter - the options are 'Driver', 'Motorcyclist', 'Vehicle Owner', 'Witness' and 'Other'. However, when reporting 'Other people involved', there are the aforementioned options but now it includes cyclists, scooter riders and more non-motorised methods of transport.

There is an obvious difference here, where the reporter cannot easily tick to identify as a cyclist, pedestrian etc, however when identifying the role of the potential offender, you can easily tick cyclist, pedestrian etc.

Why has this change occurred leading to this inconsistency?

Result of Searches

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, opinions of individual officers, 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, your request is not a valid Freedom of Information request, as it is seeking an opinion, rather than recorded information. The following is provided as a gesture of good will in this

case: The website is undergoing a change as we look to update the reporting system. We are trying to understand who submits footage to better understand our workload.