

**Date:** 10/03/2025  
**Our ref:** 01/FOI/25/014372/N

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/25/014372/N**

I write in connection with your request for information dated 10/03/2025, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

***I would like all recorded information you are able to share about the recent stabbings in the Alkrington, Middleton area at the below dates and locations:***

- Worcester Road - 3rd January 2025***
- Crow Hill South - 6th March 2025***

***In each incidents, it is understood that women were stabbed in an unprovoked manner by a lone assailant.***

***I request all held documents and details relating to both incidents/investigations and what is known of the attacker(s).***

**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 this information held as an exemption applies. The request is exempt from disclosure by virtue of the following exemption:

**Section 30(1) – Investigations and Proceedings Conducted by Public Authorities**

Section 30 is a class based qualified exemption; there is a requirement to carry out a public interest test.

### **Section 30 - Factors Favouring Disclosure**

To disclose details of any ongoing investigations, into the public domain, would show GMP's accountability, and satisfy the public, that investigations into such incidents are being conducted correctly. It would also show GMP's use of public funds in apprehending suspects of crimes.

### **Section 30 - Factors Favouring Non-Disclosure**

Conversely to the factors in favour of disclosure, to publicly release the data that is related to investigations that remain open may seriously undermine GMP's ability to complete those investigations to a full and correct conclusion.

### **Balancing Test**

When balancing the public interest test GMP must consider whether the information should be released into the public domain, therefore arguments need to be weighed against each other. The most persuasive reason for disclosing the information would be the fact that disclosure would encourage transparency. This needs to be weighed against the strongest reason for non-disclosure, which in this case is the impact on GMP's ability to complete investigations to a full and correct conclusion.

Therefore, having considered all the factors for and against disclosure it is the decision at this time to maintain the above exemption and withhold the information from disclosure.

Any further updates can be found via the GMP website and <https://www.gmp.police.uk/news/greater-manchester/news/news/2025/march/police-appeal-for-information-after-woman-attacked-in-middleton/>