

Date: 1st July 2025
Our ref: FOI/25/014862/A

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: FOI/25/014862/A

I write in connection with your request for information dated 02/06/2025, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

I am interested in your policy of providing suspects detained and searched under Section 1 of PACE with a reference number of their search in circumstances where nothing has been found on them that they should not have had.

In the following video, [REDACTED] tells the woman searched that he has nothing on which to write the log number of the search that the innocent woman has requested (12:56):

<https://gbr01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.youtube.com%2Fwatch%3Fv%3D7X3aFI09wX4&data=05%7C02%7Cfreedomofinformation%40gmp.police.uk%7Cfac814ee4e474b63d58c08dda0627b36%7Cdc8a542c40d46ab8f73e6023f45c7c5%7C0%7C0%7C638843067032901523%7CUnknown%7CTWFPbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWU%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=VUICW%2BOx3bysYcVhHjwE1vqCJpkQ16OtXqy%2B2bi72mA%3D&reserved=0>

1. Can you confirm that GMP officers are not provided with writing materials to give a searched suspect the log number of their search so that the searched person can get a copy of the search record?

2. Please provide details of officer guidance relating to a suspect searched under Section 1 of PACE who requests the log number of the search.

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.

Question 1

GMP do not provide any specific paperwork for an officer to write down and provide a log number to the subject of a search. Each Stop Search does provide a unique reference number, however this is only created after the electronic record of the search is created, which may not be at the scene.

Question 2

The subject of a search is entitled to a copy of the search record and PACE states that this must contain certain information (this is publicly available). Due to the way that GMP records searches at present it is necessary that our advice for searched persons is to attend a Police Station within 3 months of a search and ask for a copy. A URN is not required for this and the counter clerk will be able to find and provide this record.

Please see the link to GMP's website for further information about obtaining a stop and search.

[Get a record of my stop and search | Greater Manchester Police](#)