



Date: 10/07/2025
Our ref: 01/FOI/25/015005/X

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/25/015005/X

I write in connection with your request for information dated 25/06/2025, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

Freedom of Information Request for ex GMP BMW 3 Series Response vehicle.

Hello - I write to ask for information regarding a vehicle that was registered to the Greater Manchester Police force between 2012 and 2019, after which it was purchased by a citizen and in private ownership. The car in question is a BMW 3 Series, model 330d. The number plate is [REDACTED] and the VIN is [REDACTED]

I recently bought the vehicle but it did not come with any service history or records. I would very much like to know the servicing and maintenance carried out whilst in your possession. After purchasing, I read the reports of 'catastrophic' engine issues with this model (with the N57 engine), some of which have led to the car catching fire and sometimes causing death. I'd be very grateful to know the car had been well maintained and what specific maintenance had been carried out. Could you please provide the below?

- Detailed service history and maintenance records.*
- If the vehicle has ever been involved in an accident*
- Was it an On-duty or Off duty police car.*
- Was it an undercover vehicle.*
- Any other information which might be of use.*

Result of Searches

The Freedom of Information Act provides the public with a general right of access to recorded information held by public authorities. However, information disclosed under this Act is effectively released into the public domain, or to the 'wider world', and not only to the person making the request. In cases where the public request information relating to individuals, it would be extremely rare for a public authority to release such information to the whole world under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Therefore, in accordance with the Act, this letter represents a refusal notice for this request. Greater Manchester Police can neither confirm nor deny that it holds the information you requested as the duty in Section 1(1)(a) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 does not apply, by virtue of the following exemption: **Section 40(5B)(a)(i) - Personal Information**.

Giving information to a member of the public of the confirmation or denial that would have to be given to comply with section 1(1)(a) would (apart from this Act) contravene any of the principles of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and the Data Protection Act 2018.

To confirm that any information is held or not, could confirm personal data. In some circumstances confirming or denying whether information is held could itself identify a living individual and would therefore breach the principles of the GDPR and the Data Protection Act 2018.

Personal data is defined by Article 4 of the GDPR and Part 1 of the Data Protection Act 2018, and means any information relating to an identified or identifiable natural person ('data subject'). An identified natural person is one who can be identified directly or indirectly from that data.

This use of neither confirm nor deny should not be taken as proof that such information does or does not exist.