



Date: 03/06/2025
Our ref: 01/FOI/25/014691/Z

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/25/014691/Z

I write in connection with your request for information dated 30/04/2025, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

In 2019 GMP Force Command brought in a Policy to deny Police Officers their legal right to be referred to a SMP under the 1987 Pension Scheme at the behest of the then Head of HR [REDACTED]. The policy was endorsed by ACO [REDACTED] and DCC [REDACTED]. Can I have a copy of this policy ?

Can I also ask on a yearly basis since 2019 how many former officers have been refused a referral to an SMP using this illegal method ?

Are there any other HR policies that have been overturned from 2019 because of illegality ?

I also note your clarification, received by GMP on 08/05/2025:

I can clarify the following.

GMP did not refer officers with psychological injuries to a Selected Medical Practitioner for assessment as they were lawfully required to do so under the 1987 act.

Instead the following individuals former Temporary Chief Constable [REDACTED], former ACO [REDACTED], former Head of HR [REDACTED] and former Detective Chief Superintendent [REDACTED] devised an illegal scheme whereby they could decide who was referred to a Medical Practitioner (for psychological injuries) and they decided whether an injury was caused by their Police duties .

I wish to be supplied with a copy of this illegal policy. [REDACTED], [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] from HR can provide you with this .

I also wish to know how many officers have been refused referral for psychological injuries to the Selected Medical Practitioner each year since its inception and who at GMP has refused them ?

In addition I would like to know whether anyone within GMP reported this illegal policy and to whom . If so what action was taken ?

Can I also request the policy in relation to reporting corruption and wrongdoing for GMP Police staff ?

Result of Searches

We are not providing the information you have requested as we have determined that your request is vexatious under **Section 14(1) - Vexatious Requests**.

The Freedom of Information Act is a piece of legislation designed to give the public access to information held by public authorities. It exists to make the decisions of those authorities transparent and to keep the public better informed regarding matters which affect them.

A public authority can refuse requests which can divert resources away from more deserving requests and other public business or threaten to undermine the credibility of the freedom of information system. It is recognised that dealing with unreasonable requests can place a strain on resources and get in the way of delivering mainstream services.

When identifying potentially vexatious requests the indicators contained within the [Information Commissioner's guidance on Section 14\(1\)](#) should be considered. In this case we feel the following indicators applies to your request:

- Personal Grudges
- Unfounded Accusations

Your request names several current or former GMP officers and employees and makes unsubstantiated allegations of criminal conduct by them. Section 14(1) of the Freedom of Information Act does not oblige us to accept requests of this nature.

Although you may be disappointed by our decision, we would stress that this protection exists within the legislation to ensure that Freedom of Information requesters use their rights to seek information responsibly and that GMP are not wasting valuable time and resources on vexatious requests.