

Date: 09/06/2025
Our ref: 01/FOI/25/014867/F

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/25/014867/F

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

I'm an MLitt Terrorism & Political Violence student at the University of St Andrews, researching for a dissertation on the economic factors underlying lone actor terrorism.

For my dissertation, I hoped to examine and compare the 2017 Manchester Arena Bombing and 2021 Plymouth Shooting; specifically, the economic backgrounds/psychological profiles of the attackers, and how they financed their attacks.

I'm aware that both are sensitive cases and hence, accessing information may not be possible. However, if you had anything relating to the case of Salman Abedi which might help my research, I'd greatly appreciate it.

Applicant Clarification - I apologise for my vagueness in the previous email; as I'm sure you'll appreciate, a large part of the academic process is collecting as much information as possible, without necessarily knowing what one's looking for or will find.

- 1. However, I'd greatly appreciate it if you had any information on Abedi's economic background (i.e., his career before the bombing), how he financed the attack, stated motives, or comments made by him in online spaces, especially if they had anything to do with personal financial troubles.***

I'm not sure if this is still too vague a request, in which case, if you know of any public resources that I might find useful, please let me know.

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 some of the information requested is held by GMP.

However, I am not obliged to supply the information you have requested as exemption applies.

When refusing to provide such information because an exemption applies, Section 17(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires GMP, to provide you - the applicant - with a notice which: (a) states that fact, (b) specifies the exemption in question and (c) states (if that would not otherwise be apparent) why the exemption applies.

This request is exempt under **section 21 – Information accessible to applicant by other means**. The response to this request is available online. Please follow the links below.

<https://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/ukgwa/20200518112740/https://manchesterarenainquiry.org.uk/>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/manchester-arena-inquiry-reports>

<https://www.manchestereveningnews.co.uk/news/greater-manchester-news/how-manchester-arena-bomber-family-17940015>

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2023/mar/02/how-family-libya-conflict-radicalised-manchester-arena-bomber>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-40019135>