

Date: 12/06/2025
Our ref: 01/FOI/25/014861/Z

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/25/014861/Z

I write in connection with your request for information dated 30/05/2025, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Please note this request has several parts. All parts of this request refer to High Court Injunction of Claim No: KB-2024-002132, granted 5th July 2024.

***Further detail on the injunction can be found web address -
<https://gbr01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.manchesterairport.co.uk%2Fabout-us%2Finjunction%2F&data=05%7C02%7Cfreedomofinformation%40gmp.police.uk%7Cf3c6b3471a8b4d645b4608dd9f87bdb1%7Cdc8a542c40d46ab8f73e6023f45c7c5%7C0%7C0%7C638842127552942621%7CUnknown%7CTWFPbGZsb3d8eyJFbXB0eU1hcGkiOnRydWU%3D%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=k6muuN7O%2BATC60yL9uQ%2FaaBG0bm4vqtnxrmocAfPdC8%3D&reserved=0>***

Please may the following information be provided:

- 1) Please provide copies of all communications between Greater Manchester Police and Manchester Airport in relation to the above referenced High Court Injunction [Claim No: KB-2024-002132]. This may include, but is not limited to, email communications, written communications, call transcriptions, etc. as well as copies of any documents/images attached to those emails or included in the body of the emails.***
- 2) Please provide copy of any internal documents held by Greater Manchester Police that relate to the policing of Manchester Airport's High Court Injunction [Claim No: KB-2024-002132].***
- 3) Please list all meetings held between Greater Manchester Police and Manchester Airport regarding Manchester Airport's application for, and the subsequent policing and enforcement of, the High Court Injunction referenced above [Claim No: KB-2024-002132].***

In respect to any meetings listed in response to part 3 of this request, please:

3a) List the attendees of the meetings and any apologies received. (Please may this list include the full name and title of those in attendance, as well as the name of the company, department or individual that the attendee represented on the occasion of this meeting.)

3b) A copy of minutes recorded during the meetings.

3c) Any presentations shown and documents circulated during the meetings.

3d) A copy of correspondence that Greater Manchester Police has had with the attendees of the meetings listed in response to 3 specifically with regards to the meeting itself, its purpose, objectives and outcomes. This includes meeting debriefs that may have been circulated and encompasses all forms of communication recorded by Greater Manchester Police (for example, email, written communications, telephone call notes).

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 provide all the information requested as exemption applies.

Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires GMP, when refusing to provide such information (because the information is exempt) 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.

The exemption which applies to question 2 of this request is:

Section 31(1)(a)(b) – Law Enforcement

Sections 31 is prejudice based and qualified exemptions; there is a requirement to articulate the harm that would be caused in disclosing such information as well as carrying out a public interest test, which can be seen below.

Harm

Disclosure of the request information in question 2 would or would be likely to prejudice the prevention or detection of crime and apprehension or the prosecution of offenders. Specifically, releasing any internal documents could compromise ongoing investigations by revealing operational tactics or sensitive information.

Additionally, any disclosure could undermine the ability of the police and airport security to effectively prevent criminal activity, ultimately, this would jeopardise public safety by disclosing any vulnerabilities or security arrangements.

The safety of the public is of a paramount importance to Greater Manchester Police and to release the details of specific court injunctions that require planning and law enforcement tactics would compromise the safety of the public that Greater Manchester Police serve to protect.

Factors in favour of disclosure

Disclosure would promote transparency and accountability with the public on the use of public funds.

This would also increase public confidence by allowing scrutiny of how law enforcement handles security matters.

Furthermore, any disclosure would enhance the public's understanding of the measures in place to protect the public.

Factors in favour of non-disclosure

Any disclosure could seriously impair any law enforcement operations in place and could reveal any tactics used to tackle protestors within this area of crime. This could enable wanted criminals to exploit disclosed information to avoid detection or disrupt security measures.

Disclosure would lead to a greater impact on police resources, in that this could hinder the prevention and detection of crime and more crime being committed in the future. It would give advantage to those individuals intent on criminal activity, and it may assist potential criminals evading the police as policing levels would become evident. A fear of crime will be realised as criminals identify vulnerability and target and exploit the force resulting in the public being in fear of more criminal activity occurring.

This could lead to further protestors believing they can carry on their activity in this area without detection thus causing potential harm to the safety of the public travelling and using airport services.

Balancing Test

When balancing the public interest Greater Manchester Police has to consider whether the information should be released into the public domain. Arguments need to be weighed against each other. The most persuasive reason for disclosing the information would be Greater Manchester Police's accountability. This needs to be weighed against the strongest reason for non-disclosure which is the police service is charged with enforcing the law; preventing and detecting crime and protecting the people/communities/airport we serve.

In this case this is the fact that individuals may be placed at risk and the affect it may have on the prevention and detection of crime. In this case, I believe the case for disclosure is not made out.

The police will not divulge any information that would place the safety of an individual at risk or undermine law enforcement. Whilst there is a public interest in the transparency of policing, and in this case providing assurance that the police service is appropriately and effectively engaging with the threat posed by criminal activity, there is a very strong public interest in safeguarding the resource capability which could highlight which events the force is focussing more.

Please see the remaining responses.

1. No information held.
2. No information held.