



Date: 19/05/2025
Our ref: 01/FOI/25/014585/Y

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/25/014585/Y

I write in connection with your request for information dated 11/04/2025, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

It has become common for Police Forces in the UK to enter into contracts with companies such as Raw Cut Television Limited, to produce pro-police selectively edited propaganda programmes for broadcast on national television. These programmes always seem to show the police in a good light, even when the officers involved behave in an unlawful manner by abusing powers to force entry conferred in Section 17 of PACE by upgrading alleged offences to indictable offences, then downgrading them to summary offences once they reach the police station. The officers involved also conduct post production interviews in full uniform.

I am requesting the following information;

- 1. A list of television programmes (past, present and yet to air) involving a contract between a production or broadcasting company and GMP. It should detail the name of the production and the other parties. Example: 'The Force: Manchester', 'Cops UK: Bodycam Squad', 'Police Interceptors' (Raw Cut TV Limited).*
- 2. The details of those contracts, including financial exchanges and their amounts.*
- 3. Number of officer hours taken during in the filming of interviews during post-production. Officers are usually in full uniform during these interviews, so it's safe to assume that they're working in the office of Constable during that interview.*

I also note your clarification, received on 16/04/2025:

An appropriate timeframe for this data is between 1st January 2010 and the date of the FOI request.

If you are unable to do this because of cost/hours consumed locating the data, then alternatively, search for the data from one year later, 1st January 2011, and so on, until you are able to return the information requested.

Result of Searches

Information relating to question 3 of your request is not held in an easily retrievable format, if it is indeed held at all. There is no centrally held record of such instances, as such interviews are conducted as cameras follow the officers on their normal shifts. To provide such data would require each division, sub-division and possibly each individual officer to undertake necessary searches to establish if any such interviews have happened and if so for how many hours.

To comply with the whole of your request the process would take over 18 hours' work and therefore exceeds the appropriate limit of £450.00, the amount to which we are legally required to respond i.e. the cost of locating and retrieving the information exceeds the 'appropriate level' as stated in the Freedom of Information (Fees and Appropriate Limit) Regulations 2004.

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000, this letter acts as a Refusal Notice.

GMP is obliged, pursuant to section 16(1) of the Act to provide you with advice and assistance on refining your request to bring compliance within the fees limit. The only advice that GMP can give is that you specify a particular production to make your request more manageable within the fees limit of the act, although this still may not be possible for even one production.