

Date: 06/11/2025
Our ref: 01/FOI/25/015730/T

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/25/015730/T

I write in connection with your request for information dated 27/10/2025, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

This request follows the national FOI programme I conducted in 2023, to which 39 of 47 UK police forces (~83%) responded in full and within time. I am resubmitting in order to complete and update the national dataset on police-motorcyclist safety, PPE usage, and associated costs.

Please provide the following information for the period 1 January 2020 to the date of your search, unless otherwise stated, relating to your force's use of motorcycles for operational duties:

1) PPE Risk Assessments and Specifications (2023–Present)

- Copies (or latest versions) of any risk assessments or PPE procurement specifications governing motorcycle rider PPE, dated from 1 January 2023 onward.***
- Please indicate any references to EN 17092, EN 13595, or other standards.***
- Date of last review/revision for each document.***

2) Collision and Injury Data (2020–Present)

- Total number of recorded collisions involving on-duty police motorcyclists.***
- Of these, how many resulted in rider injury (minor / serious / fatal, if available).***

3) PPE Damage / Replacement Records (2020–Present)

- Number of incidents where issued PPE (jacket, trousers, gloves, boots, helmet) was damaged/destroyed/replaced following a collision or operational incident.***
- Where held, a short categorisation of damage (e.g., abrasion, tearing, impact).***

4) Operational and Financial Impact (2020–Present)

- Working days lost due to sickness absence arising from motorcycle-related incidents.***

- **Approximate total cost to the force (repairs, replacement PPE, sickness pay) where retrievable within cost limits.**

5) Policy/Standard Changes Since 2023

- **Details of any changes or reviews to motorcycle PPE specification, procurement, or risk assessment since your 2023 FOI response (if applicable).**
- **Any participation in national projects/consultations/BSI committees (e.g., PH/3/9 or CEN/TC 162/WG 9) concerning motorcycle PPE.**

For clarity, I am not requesting personal data, medical details, or narrative accident reports—only anonymised, aggregate, or summary information.

As over 80% of forces provided comparable data in 2023 without difficulty, I am confident this request falls within reasonable cost and effort limits. Given this concerns occupational safety, public expenditure, and officer welfare, disclosure is clearly in the public interest.

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 the information requested is held by GMP.

However, GMP does not hold the information that you have requested in an easily retrievable format.

The cost information requested in Q4 is not readily identifiable within the Finance System. While the system does hold general sickness absence costs, it is not configured to isolate costs specifically arising from motorcycle-related incidents without carrying out a manual review. To obtain such data, a manual review would be required, involving cross-referencing HR absence records with incident reports to determine relevant cases and then estimating associated costs.

Due the scale of this review that is needed, this request would not be achievable in under 18hrs.

If one part of the request engages a Section 12 response, the whole request will engage a Section 12 response. The reason being is locating, retrieving and extracting any further information would only add to the already exceeded time obligations and so no other searches have been completed at this stage.

Therefore, as per **Section 12(1)** of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the cost of providing you with the information is above 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 obligated, 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. In order for the force to attempt to keep this within the fees limit, the information you are requesting will need revising with the removal of question 4. However, the resulting response cannot be guaranteed at this point as it will be dependent upon the number of records that fall within the scope of any new request, as they would still have to be manually assessed.

Should you wish to refine and resubmit your request in line with the advice above please respond to freedomofinformation@gmp.police.uk.