

**Date:** 26/11/2025  
**Our ref:** 01/FOI/25/015779/K

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/25/015779/K**

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

***Please provide the following information relating to speed limit enforcement relating to gantry M60-9228A, a VSL speed camera on the M60 clockwise between Junction 13 and Junction 14.***

- 1. The number of vehicles captured exceeding the posted speed limit between 19:00 - 20:15 on 12/10/2025.***
- 2. For each of those captured as per question 1, a list showing:***
  - a. The time of the event.***
  - b. The recorded speed.***
  - c. The speed limit exceeded.***
- 3. Any photographs captured showing the speed limit displayed on the gantry between 19:00 - 20:15 on 12/10/2025 (personal info such as reference numbers or VRMs may be redacted).***

***Where you believe some or all of this information is exempt from disclosure, please provide the exemption relied on. Where you believe some of the information is exempt, please still provide all information that is not exempt.***

**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, I am not obliged to provide the information requested as exemptions apply.

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 information requested in relation to information about

operational fixed/mobile safety cameras and the detected speeds for **question 2b** have been exempt from disclosure by virtue of the following exemptions:

**Section 31(1)(a)(b) Law Enforcement**

**Section 38(1)b Health and Safety**

Sections 31(1)(a)(b) and Section 38 (1)b are 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.

**Section 31– Harm**

To disclose the recorded speeds exceeded for this request will create misleading and potentially dangerous information into the public domain. Release of such information would potentially allow identification of GMP's speed thresholds revealing the precise speed at which enforcement cameras activate. This would allow some drivers to intentionally travel above the signalled speed limit but just below the enforcement threshold which would directly undermine the compliance and allow offenders to evade detection.

**Factors Favouring Disclosure**

The disclosure details of any operational safety cameras and their operational functions would assist the populous in taking steps to better protect themselves. It would also show GMP's accountability in the use of public funds when policing.

**Factors Favouring Non-Disclosure**

Conversely to the factors in favour of disclosure, to publicly release information about the recorded speeds exceeded would undermine the effectiveness of the cameras and our road safety enforcement. Enforcement thresholds are an operational law enforcement tool, and to release any information to compromise this would reveal methodology used in detecting offences and determining prosecutable conduct. This would compromise both fixed and mobile enforcement activities. Providing this data would create a perception that motorists may travel excess of the speed limit without fear of being caught. The faster the traffic travels, the higher the risk of accidents to motorists.

**Section 38 –Harm**

To disclose the requested information for 2b would encourage motorists to break the speed limit and drive dangerously. This would undoubtedly increase the risk of the health and safety of pedestrians and other motorists. If drivers knew precisely how far they can exceed the limit before enforcement activates, a proportion will deliberately drive faster. Increased speeds correlate with increased severity of collisions and a higher risk of fatal or serious injuries to drivers, passengers and other road users.

**Factors Favouring Disclosure**

The disclosure of operational speed cameras and their operational functions would encourage transparency between the Force and the public.

**Factors Favouring Non-Disclosure**

Disclosure is likely to result in increased vehicle speeds, higher collision severity and an increased risk of death or serious injuries. Other road users would be placed at higher risk if drivers knew the limits to which they could exceed the thresholds. Individuals intending to evade detection would consistently exploit this information and continue to drive at unsafe speeds despite the signals to reduce their speeds accordingly. Protecting public safety is paramount to GMP, and we would not release any data that undermines this.

## **Balancing Test**

When balancing the public interest test GMP has to consider whether the information should be released into the public domain, therefore arguments need to be weighed against each other.

The most persuasive reason for disclosing the information would be the fact that disclosure would encourage transparency, which needs to be weighed against the strongest reasons for non-disclosure, which in this case is the likelihood of individuals being put at risk. The safety of the communities GMP police is of paramount importance and the Force would not detrimentally impact on that safety by disclosing harmful information in response to a FOI request.

Therefore, having considered all the factors for and against disclosure it is the decision at this time to maintain the above exemptions for question 2b and withhold the information requested.

**Please see the remaining information below.**

Data provided is the number of detections exceeding the set speed limit at the location outlines above in your request. During the time specified, the speed limit was set at 40mph.

1. 30 vehicles exceed the set limit of 40mph
2. See below.
  - a) All offences took place between 19:00 - 20:15.
  - b) See exemption above.
  - c) The variable speed limit set for this requested timeframe was 40mph
3. An image of the gantry signs that were set for these offences and timeframe is shown below.

