

Date: 12/09/2025
Our ref: 01/FOI/25/015457/V

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/25/015457/V

I write in connection with your request for information dated 08/09/2025, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

I have a query that I would like dealt with under the Freedom of Information Act.

I would like a record, itemised and with costings, of any formerly military equipment your force has purchased over the last five years.

This includes equipment bought directly (eg from the Defence Equipment Sales Authority), or indirectly through auctions, websites, surplus stockists, brokers, or any other kind of intermediary.

By 'military' I mean any branch in any country, and I mean 'equipment' broadly, to include vehicles, weapons, uniforms, tools, body armour, sprays, restraints, etc. etc.

Many thanks in advance for you help,

Result of Searches

GMP cannot confirm if it holds all the information that you have requested without conducting a thorough search on your behalf

GMP would be required to undertake a substantial review to see if we hold the information relating to your request. Our finance system is not configured in a way that can easily identify purchases of this nature. Additionally, these items are not categorised on our purchase order system in the manner you're requesting to help us to easily extract this information if available.

As you have requested a wide range of equipment, we would be required to trawl through thousands of suppliers and purchase orders over 5 years to try and identify any purchases as our procurement records do not have any way to easily identify which suppliers may be stockists or brokers of any

military equipment purchased. A review of each on would be the only way to search for such a “broad” list as you have requested.

Therefore, as per section 12(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the cost of searching for the information is above the amount to which we are legally required to respond i.e. the cost of locating 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 to a reduced time frame and to be less “broad” about what equipment you are referring to. Providing a smaller more detailed list along with a list of suppliers to link them with may be of assistance. You can use the Bluelight portal for all GMP suppliers. [Sell2](#)

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.