



Date: 22/01/2026
Our ref: 01/FOI/26/016091/K

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/26/016091/K

I write in connection with your request for information dated 05/01/2026, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

Please can you tell me what the protocol is for responding to and caring for (suspected) victims of spiking?

Result of Searches

Following receipt of your request searches were conducted within Greater Manchester Police (GMP) to locate information relevant to your request. I can confirm that some information relevant to your request is held by GMP.

GMP do not have a specific policy for responding to spiking incidents or the care for victims of spiking.

All incidents, including reports of suspected spiking, are risk assessed using the Threat, Harm, Risk, Investigation, Vulnerability, Engagement (THRIVE) framework. This is a nationally recognised risk assessment framework. GMP's THRIVE model is provided below.

THRIVE on a page

This guidance seeks to describe the layout of a THRIVE risk assessment and THRIVE summary. The guidance will explain the “touchpoints” at which a THRIVE risk assessment or THRIVE summary must be appended to an incident, which of the two must be used, and who must complete this. “THINK VICTIM”. Good quality risk assessment drives meaningful action that puts the victim at the heart of what we do.

THRIVE Summary layout

THRIVE ‘RISK LEVEL’ (LOW / MEDIUM / HIGH)

Rationale for risk level and safeguarding - You need to write a rationale for the risk level based on the possibility or likelihood of something occurring. You should manage and review the expected or forecasted levels of harm to individuals, the public, offenders or property. You should consider a full range of historical, current, potential and foreseeable factors in determining levels of risk. You should also record your safeguarding considerations and what advice you have given the victim, as the better quality safeguarding advice given, the risk may reduce.

Vulnerability - A person is vulnerable if, as a result of their situation or circumstances, they are unable to take care of or protect themselves or others from harm or exploitation. It is vital our staff identify whether our victims, informants or suspects are vulnerable and can explain why they are or why they are not vulnerable.

THRIVE Risk Assessment

T-Threat — Source of harm / how harm is indicated / circumstances

H-Harm — If situation deteriorates what harm will be caused?

R-Risk — Low, med or high and rationale including safeguarding.

I-Investigation — Grading, evidence retention advice, allocation?

V-Vulnerability — Consider victim or anyone else? Why / why not vul?

E- Engage — NWS / Fire / Other forces (BTP) / GMMHTAS? (CRS) etc.

Touchpoint 1: At Inception

Anyone creating an incident must append a THRIVE risk assessment.

Touchpoint 2: At Regrade

Anyone requesting a regrade (to & from any grade) must append a THRIVE risk assessment.

Touchpoint 3: At Escalation

Dispatch must append a THRIVE risk assessment as per the Incident Escalation Policy and Procedure. If Dispatch supervisors disagree with any of the THRIVE they must append a new THRIVE with their amendments.

Touchpoint 4: At Change in Circumstances

If circumstances change and risk or vulnerability alters but a regrade is not required, a further THRIVE risk assessment will be required.

Touchpoint 5: Closure

Where a practitioner resolves the incident and there will be no further risk management e.g. through a crime event or neighbourhood problem solving, a THRIVE risk assessment is required. Finalising incidents must be completed by supervisors.

GRADING BY THRIVE

GREATER MANCHESTER
POLICE



Considerations

Grade 1 - THRIVE HIGH Immediate 15 Minutes

Ongoing **NOW** where there is **SERIOUS** -

- Danger to Life
- Use of violence
- Threat of violence
- Injury
- Damage

Grade 2 - THRIVE MEDIUM Priority 1 Hour

Ongoing, where **NO** Police attendance within 1 hour will highly likely result in escalation or deterioration of the circumstances causing -

- Injury or damage to occur
- Specific concern for safety
- Significant vulnerability identified
- Loss of evidence
- Loss of Witnesses
- Person detained, risk of escape or violence

Grade C THRIVE LOW

CENTRAL

L

P

Further information on the THRIVE framework can be found on the College of Policing website: [Introduction to vulnerability-related risk | College of Policing](#).

The following is an excerpt from GMP's Crime Management Policy and Procedure relating to victim care:

4.1 Victim Care

GMP is committed to supporting victims and placing them at the heart of the crime management process. This will be done through:

- *Victim-centred investigations - that are fair, thorough and proportionate. Officers are expected to adopt an investigative mindset that prioritises the needs and experiences of victims from the outset.*

- *Victims' Code compliance – all officers and staff must comply with the Victims' Code, ensuring victims are taken seriously; are treated with dignity and respect; informed of their rights and entitlements; and provided with timely updates and meaningful contact.*
- *Victim Needs Assessment (VNA) - must be completed at the point of crime recording (when speaking with the victim) and when the crime is passed to a new officer. The OIC must contact the victim, set the contact level, agree frequency and preferred method of contact and signpost/make referrals to appropriate support services.*
- *Safeguarding and risk management - officers must assess and reassess risk to the victim and wider community at key stages. Safeguarding actions must be documented and acted upon promptly.*
- *Out of Court Resolutions (OoCR) - victims' views must be considered before applying an OoCR. Officers are encouraged to explore early resolution options that are in the best interest of the victim.*
- *Training and culture - GMP invests in high-quality training for investigators to ensure they understand and uphold victim-centred principles. Supervisors are expected to instil a culture of empathy, professionalism and accountability.*

The rights that a victim of any crime, including spiking, have are outlined in the Ministry of Justice's Code of Practice for Victims of Crime in England and Wales. This can be found on the Ministry of Justice website: [The Code of Practice for Victims of Crime in England and Wales and supporting public information materials - GOV.UK](#)

Further support for victims of crime can be obtained from [Greater Manchester Victim's Services](#).