

Date: 13th July 2026
Our ref: FOI/26/017170/M

I write in connection with your request for information dated 02/07/2026, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

I request the disclosure of all recorded information held by Greater Manchester Police relating to Operation Hexagon, including but not limited to the following:

- 1. The date Operation Hexagon was authorised and commenced.***
- 2. The original operational proposal, business case, strategic assessment or equivalent document that led to its creation.***
- 3. The terms of reference, objectives, scope and purpose of Operation Hexagon.***
- 4. Any Gold, Silver or Bronze command structures established for Operation Hexagon, including the names or ranks (where disclosure is lawful) of those holding command responsibility.***
- 5. All policy documents, operational orders, strategic plans, briefing papers and decision logs relating to Operation Hexagon.***
- 6. Any memoranda of understanding, partnership agreements or joint working protocols between Greater Manchester Police and Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council or any other public authority concerning Operation Hexagon.***
- 7. Minutes, agendas and records of meetings where Operation Hexagon was discussed or authorised.***
- 8. Any legal advice or recorded legal basis relied upon in establishing or conducting Operation Hexagon, including statutory powers or common law authorities.***
- 10. The total cost of Operation Hexagon, including staffing, external legal advice, consultancy and other expenditure.***
- 11. The duration of the operation, including whether it remains active and, if not, the date on which it concluded.***

I also request all recorded information held concerning the involvement of the Mayor of Greater Manchester, acting in his capacity as Police and Crime Commissioner, in relation to Operation Hexagon, including:

- 1. Any briefings provided to the Mayor regarding Operation Hexagon.**
- 2. Any correspondence (including emails, letters, meeting notes or briefing papers) between Greater Manchester Police and the Office of the Mayor/Police and Crime Commissioner concerning Operation Hexagon.**
- 3. Any records showing whether the Mayor approved, authorised, endorsed, reviewed or otherwise exercised oversight in relation to Operation Hexagon.**
- 4. Any records identifying decisions made by the Mayor or his office regarding funding, governance or continuation of Operation Hexagon.**
- 5. Any minutes or records of meetings attended by the Mayor or representatives of the Mayor's Office where Operation Hexagon was discussed.**
- 6. Any reports submitted to the Mayor or the Police and Crime Commissioner concerning the operation's objectives, progress, outcomes or governance.**

In addition, please disclose:

- 1. Any documents explaining the operational rationale for the establishment of Operation Hexagon.**
- 2. Any documents identifying the categories of individuals or matters intended to fall within its remit.**
- 3. Any post-operation reviews, lessons learned reports, audits or evaluations.**
- 4. Any internal or external reviews into the legality, proportionality or effectiveness of Operation Hexagon.**
- 5. Any records identifying which agencies participated in or contributed to the operation.**
- 6. Any communications with the Home Office, the Independent Office for Police Conduct, His Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services, or any Government department regarding Operation Hexagon.**

If any information is withheld, please specify:

- * the exemption(s) relied upon;***
- * why those exemptions apply;***
- * the public interest considerations where a qualified exemption is claimed; and***
- * whether any reasonably severable information can be disclosed.***

Where information is already publicly available, please provide the precise location or hyperlink rather than refusing the request.

If this request exceeds the appropriate cost limit under Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I request that you provide advice and assistance under Section 16 to enable me to refine the request so that it falls within the statutory cost limit.

I would prefer to receive the information electronically.

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 the information you have requested is held by GMP.

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

To provide a response to this request would require a large scale manual review of all records relating to Operation Hexagon as the information you are requesting is not held centrally on one recording system. For example, question 5 alone requires a consideration of all relevant policy documents, operational orders and associated material. From an initial search over 4,000 individual files have

been identified, all records would need to be manually reviewed and assessed for relevance, which would take a considerable amount of time and in excess of the 18 hour cost limit.

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.

Greater Manchester Police 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 keep this within the fees limit, the information that you are requesting will need to be reduced. For example, a reduction in the volume of questions asked. 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.