

Date: 15th December 2025
Our ref: FOI/25/015867/J

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: FOI/25/015867/J

I write in connection with your request for information dated 17/11/2025, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

I am writing to you today to request some information regarding Tactical Firearms Unit in the Specialist Operations divisions.

1. I would like to know the current weapons used by Authorized Firearms Officers & Specialist Firearms Officers.

2. All the Equipment carried in Tactical Firearms Unit, Armed Response Vehicles (with images if possible).

3. A list of the medical equipment carried in the medical kits in the Armed Response Vehicles.

Result of Searches

Following receipt of your request searches were conducted within Greater Manchester Police (GMP) to locate the requested information. I can confirm the information requested is held by GMP. However, I am not obliged to provide all the information requested as exemption applies.

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 exemption which applies to question 1 and 2 is:

Section 31(1)(a)(b) – Law Enforcement

Section 31 is 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.

Harm

Disclosure of information such as the type weapons and equipment which are carried by firearms officer would reveal tactical capabilities and vulnerabilities and would compromise the efficient and effective conduct of Greater Manchester Police during deployments.

The safety of the public is of paramount importance to Greater Manchester Police and to release details about operations would compromise the safety of the public that Greater Manchester Police serve to protect.

Furthermore, this would impact future law enforcement capabilities of Greater Manchester Police in the prevention and detection of crime as criminals' intent on committing crime would have an insight on how and when police resources are used.

Factors in Favour of Disclosure

To disclose the information request would adhere to the basic principle of being open and transparent. It would also lead to a better public awareness of the workings of the police force.

Factors in Favouring Non-Disclosure

Disclosure of the specific firearms and equipment used by armed officers would be likely to prejudice the prevention and detection of crime and the apprehension and prosecution of offenders. Knowledge of specific weapons and equipment available to officers could enable individuals or groups with criminal intent to take measure to defeat or avoid police tactics. This could place officers and members of the public at risk of harm.

Disclosure would provide those individuals within the criminal fraternity who wish to attack the police or members of the public with a significant operational advantage. The information could also be used to target locations perceived as less resourced or to develop tactics to divert resources away from locations that they wish to target. This would clearly jeopardise the ability of Greater Manchester Police to respond appropriately to criminal activity and thereby protect the public.

The safety of the public is of paramount importance to Greater Manchester Police and to release the requested information would compromise the safety of the community that Greater Manchester Police serve to protect and place individuals, including officers, at risk of harm.

Balance Test

When balancing the public interest Greater Manchester Police must consider whether the information should be released into the public domain. Arguments need to be weighed against each other.

The most persuasive reason for disclosing the information would be openness. However, this needs to be weighed against the strongest reason for non-disclosure which is the fact that individuals may be placed at risk of harm and the effect it may have on the prevention and detection of crime and protecting the people and communities we serve.

Having considered all the factors for and against disclosure, the reason against disclosure outweighs the reason for disclosure and so the decision at this time is to maintain the above exemption and withhold the information from disclosure for questions 1 and 2.

Response

Question 1 – Exempt. Please see above.

Question 2 – Exempt. Please see above.

Question 3

- Defibrillator
- Oxygen Canister
- Trauma Bag containing the following:

M – Massive Haemorrhage
Trauma Shears
HSE Medium Dressing
HSE Large Dressing
Sterile Non-Woven Swabs (10cm x 10cm)
Celox Rapid Haemostatic Z-Fold Gauze
CAT Tourniquets – Orange (Gen 7)
A – Airway
Suction Easy
OP Airway – Size 3 (8)
OP Airway – Size 4 (9)
OP Airway – Size 5 (10)
NP Airway – Size 6
NP Airway – Size 7
NP Airway – Size 8
Lubricant Sachet 5g
I-Gel – Size 3 (O2 Resus)
I-Gel – Size 4 (O2 Resus)
I-Gel – Size 5 (O2 Resus)
Filter (Intersurgical) with Replacement Valve
Catheter Mount (Intersurgical)
Microporous Tape
R – Respiratory
Pocket Mask
Non-Rebreather Oxygen Mask – Adult
Non-Rebreather Oxygen Mask – Child
BVM – Adult
BVM – Paediatric
Nasal Canulae
Sterile Non-Woven Swabs (10cm x 10 cm)
Russell Chest Seal
Fox Chest Seal
Pulse Oximeter
Stethoscope 3022
C – Circulation
Emergency Care Bandage
Blast Bandage – Brown
Non-Sterile Calico Triangular Bandage 90x127cm

T-POD Pelvic Stabilisation Device
H – Head and Other Injuries
Non-Sterile Calico Triangular Bandage 90x127cm
Disposable Pen Light / Torch 1
Blizzard Blanket (Orange) (Flat Packed)
Crepe Bandages 5cm x 4m2
HSE27 Extra Large Dressing 4
SAM Splint 36in Flat
Eye Wash 250ml
Saline Pods (20ml)
Nitrile Gloves Medium (Pair)
Nitrile Gloves Large (Pair)
Nitrile Gloves Extra Large (Pair)
Clingfilm Role
Alcohol Hand Gel (100ml)
Water Gel – Burns Dressing (Face Mask)
Assorted Plasters – Pack 20
Sharps Disposal Bin
Clinical Waste Bags (5 pcs)
Adjustable Hard Collar – Adult
Penthrox