



Date: 09/03/2026
Our ref: 01/FOI/26/016383/T

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/26/016383/T

I write in connection with your request for information dated 12/03/2026, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

Dear police force,

1. *Has this force implemented the NPCC draft interim search guidance (published on 22nd May 2025 Police search guidance following Supreme Court decision).*
2. *If so, what date was the draft interim search guidance implemented in this force.*
3. *Provide a copy of any communication (from chief officer team, legal dept, training dept, force lead for searching, HR dept or Equalities dept) given to staff with regard to the implementation of this guidance and include date circulated/sent.*
4. *If not, what policy/guidance is being followed by this force in relation to searches exceeding those of the most basic type*? Please provide a copy of the policy/guidance with regard to such searches. Stipulate whether these are only being undertaken by an officer of the same sex** as the person being searched. If not, please provide details of the circumstances in which a search of this nature may be undertaken by an officer not of the same sex.*

**Searches involving the removal of jacket, outer clothing and gloves, more normally termed as 'more thorough searches' **Same sex meaning the same biological sex as determined and observed at conception/birth.*

Result of Searches

Information relating to part three of your request is not held in an easily retrievable format, if it is indeed held at all. There is no centrally held record of such communications and in order to provide such information would require each member of staff from the departments that you have specified to undertake necessary searches to establish if any such communications have occurred.

To comply with the whole of your request the process would take over 18 hours' work and therefore exceeds the appropriate limit of £450.00, 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

In this instance, Greater Manchester Police will be unable able to provide advice for you to reduce the request for the force to keep this within the fees limit in accordance with Section 16(1), the duty to provide advice and assistance, of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. There will be no feasible way to collate the information requested in part three within the cost limit.

Although excess costs remove GMP's obligations under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, as a gesture of goodwill (see below information), I have supplied information, relative to your request, that was retrieved / available before it was realised that the fees limit would be exceed. I trust this is helpful, but it does not affect our legal right to rely on the fees regulations for the remainder of your request.

1. Yes.
2. June 2025.