

Date: 11th March 2026
Our ref: FOI/26/016385/V

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: FOI/26/016385/V

I write in connection with your request for information dated 13/02/2026, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

I am writing to request the full police record relating to, [REDACTED], who was stabbed in June 2025; this includes all information held by the police regarding any incidents or reports involving him leading up to his death, the events and investigation on the day he was stabbed, and any subsequent actions or findings, including but not limited to statements, reports, call logs, and investigation notes.

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 the information requested as exemptions apply.

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 request has been exempt from disclosure by virtue of the following exemptions:

Section 30(1) – Investigations and Proceedings Conducted by Public Authorities

Section 38(1) - Health and Safety

Section 40(2) - Personal Information

Section 30(1) is a class based qualified exemption; there is a requirement to carry out a public interest test, which can be seen below.

Section 38(1) is a prejudice based qualified exemption; 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.

Section 40(2) is an absolute exemption; there is no right to the information under the FOI Act. A public interest test is not relevant to absolute exemptions, therefore no public interest test is required.

Harm as per Section 38

This Act provides the public with a general right of access to recorded information held by public authorities. However, information disclosed under this Act is effectively released into the public domain, or to the 'wider world', and not only to the person making the request.

To disclose the information that you have requested which may not already be in the public domain would undoubtedly have an impact on the health and safety of the family members of the victim. Such information being disclosed could resurface these traumatic experiences and cause the victim's family to again revisit this terrible period of their lives.

Protecting the safety of the public is of paramount importance to GMP and information that would compromise such health and safety would not be disclosed within a response to a Freedom of Information request.

Section 30 - Factors Favouring Disclosure

To disclose the exempt information into the public domain, would show GMP's accountability, and satisfy the public that the investigations into the victim's death were being conducted correctly. It would also show GMP's use of public funds.

Section 30 - Factors Favouring Non-Disclosure

Conversely to the factors in favour of disclosure, the disclosure sets a precedent as to how GMP responds over such questions which may inhibit the ability to prevent and detect crime in the future, as individuals may well be less inclined to co-operate with the police if they were aware that the information they provide, or is held by GMP would likely be disclosed to the world in circumstances sitting outside the criminal justice process.

Section 38 - Factors favouring disclosure

There may be occasions when it is appropriate to disclose information that would have an impact on the health and safety of an individual or the public in general. It could raise awareness in relation to this incident, and encourage the public to come forward with any new information that could assist police investigations.

There are, however, more general arguments that must be considered such as openness and transparency, which would lead to a more informed public.

Section 38 - Factors favouring non-disclosure

Although some information may already be in the public domain and that information relates to a deceased person, due to the nature of the crime committed, and that disclosure under Freedom of Information Act is disclosure to the world at large with no specific controls, disclosure carries the potential risk of causing significant mental and physical harm and distress to the loved ones and friends of the victim.

Balancing test

When balancing the public interest Greater Manchester Police has to 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. This needs to be weighed against the strongest reason for non-disclosure which is concerns for the health and safety, both mental and physical, of families and friends of the victim.

Having considered all the factors for and against disclosure it is my belief that in this case, the reason against disclosure outweighs the reason for disclosure and so the decision at this time to maintain the above exemptions and withhold the information from disclosure.

In accordance with the Act, this letter represents a Refusal Notice.

Information Management & Data Directorate (IMDD), Information Access Unit, Greater Manchester Police
Openshaw Complex, Lawton Street, Openshaw, Manchester, M11 2NS