



Date: 18/05/2026
Our ref: 01/FOI/26/016771/B

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/26/016771/B

I write in connection with your request for information dated 26/04/2026, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

I am writing to request information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 regarding your force's use of generative artificial intelligence tools — including but not limited to Microsoft Copilot, OpenAI ChatGPT, Google Gemini, and Anthropic Claude — by officers or staff for any purpose connected to operational policing.

This request relates specifically to generative AI / large language model tools. It does not cover other forms of AI such as facial recognition technology, predictive analytics, or automated data matching, which are outside the scope of this request.

I request disclosure of the following recorded information:

1. *Policies and governance*
 - (a) *Copies of all policies, standard operating procedures, guidance documents, or directives — whether issued at force level or adopted from national guidance — that govern the use of generative AI tools by officers or staff, in force since 1 January 2023.*
 - (b) *If no such policy or guidance exists, please confirm this.*
2. *Risk assessments and compliance*
 - (a) *Copies of any Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) completed in relation to the use of generative AI tools by officers or staff for any purpose, including administrative, investigative, or operational tasks.*
 - (b) *If no DPIA has been completed for any generative AI tool, please confirm this.*
3. *Deployed tools and licensing*

- (a) A list of any generative AI tools (including products bundled within existing software suites, such as Microsoft Copilot within Microsoft 365) that have been made available to officers or staff, and the date from which each tool was made available.
- (b) Whether access to any generative AI tool has been suspended or restricted since 1 January 2023, and if so, which tool, on what date, and any recorded reason for the suspension or restriction.

4. *Training*

- (a) Whether any training, e-learning, briefing, or written guidance on the use, limitations, or risks of generative AI tools has been provided to officers or staff, and if so, the date it was first made available.
- (b) Whether completion of such training is mandatory before officers or staff may use generative AI tools, or whether it is optional or advisory.
- (c) The number of officers and staff who have completed such training, if this figure is recorded, and the total number of officers and staff who currently have access to one or more generative AI tools.
- (d) If no training has been provided, please confirm this.

5. *Incident recording and quality assurance*

- (a) The number of occasions, if recorded, on which output from a generative AI tool used by officers or staff was subsequently identified as containing factual inaccuracies, fabricated information, or material errors — whether identified internally or by an external party — since 1 January 2023.
- (b) If no such records are held, please confirm this.

6. *Audits and reviews*

- (a) Copies of any audit, review, or evaluation — whether conducted internally or by an external body — of the force's use of generative AI tools.
- (b) If no audit or review has been conducted, please confirm this.

Scope and cost clarification: To assist with cost estimates under Section 12, I confirm that this request covers only generative AI / large language model tools as defined above. I am not requesting information about other forms of AI, algorithmic tools, or automated decision-making systems.

If you estimate that compliance would exceed the appropriate cost limit, I would ask that you comply with questions 1(a), 1(b), 2(a), 2(b), 3(a), and 3(b) as a priority, and advise me which remaining questions you are unable to answer within the cost limit so that I may submit a refined request.

I look forward to your response within 20 working days, as required by Section 10 of the Act.

Result of Searches

Following receipt of your request searches were conducted within Greater Manchester Police to locate information relevant to your request. I can confirm that some of the information you have requested is held by Greater Manchester Police. However, I am not obliged to supply all the information you have requested as exemptions apply.

When refusing to provide such information because an exemption applies, Section 17(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires GMP, 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 information you have requested in question 1 is exempt under **Section 21 – Information accessible to applicant by other means**. GMP's Artificial Intelligence Policy is [published on our website](#).

The remainder of your request is not exempt and can be answered as follows:

1. Exempt under S21, see above.
2. No information held.
3. College of Policing Assistant (CoPA) - Currently deployed in a trial to Rochdale and Tameside - TRIAL

When CoPA AI was first introduced in GMP

- Rochdale – 14th of July 2025
- Tameside – 8th of December 2025

Briefing notes on the system's functionality, operations, and any internal documentation:

CoPA is a grounded AI tool, designed to provide specific, targeted guidance to users on policing in accordance with GMP's AI policy and the NPCC AI covenant. It has the ability and capability to search a hand-crafted, pre-loaded library, pooling information and providing answers from only trusted sources: national and local policies, College of Policing, Gov.UK, Crown Prosecution Service; and National Police Chiefs' Council. This library is populated by GMP's very own IT architects, with updates initiated on a regular basis to ensure that only the most up to date information is provided in response to clear user prompts and searches.

CoPA gives officers and staff 24/7 access to real-time information, helping them apply correct policy, procedure, and best practice to policing duties, crime recording, investigations, and administration. All data remains within UK borders, meeting essential security and data protection requirements for policing.

Operating strictly within NPCC and official AI guidance, it ensures reliable, policy-compliant support, and ethical safeguards.

CoPA uses OpenAI to retrieve answers from the document library only, it will not provide an answer if it cannot find something but can be used to rewrite, summarise etc.

CoPilot Chat is also available across the Force

4. At this time GMP does not have specific AI training.

5. No information held. GMP does not hold central records capable of quantifying the number of occasions on which output from generative AI tools was identified as inaccurate or erroneous.
6. GMP has not conducted a standalone audit specifically focused on generative AI tools. Assurance regarding AI use has been incorporated into wider information governance and digital risk reviews.