

Date: 14/05/2026

Our ref: 01/FOI/26/016887/M

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/26/016887/M

I write in connection with your request for information dated 13/05/2026, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

For context, Trafford Council recently confirmed that its CCTV arrangements include:

- * shared control-room operations with Salford***
- * multi-department operational access***
- * external software vendor access pathways***
- * integrated infrastructure expansion***
- * reliance on internal audit structures***
- * Data Protection Impact Assessments prior to new camera deployment.***

There is longstanding public-interest concern regarding misuse of institutional access within policing, government and public-sector organisations historically, including unauthorised disclosure, inappropriate access to sensitive systems, insider threats and failures of oversight.

As surveillance infrastructure becomes increasingly interconnected across authorities, software vendors, contractors and operational partners, understanding what safeguards and accountability mechanisms exist is an important matter of public confidence and democratic transparency.

Please provide the following recorded information from 2020 to present:

1. Copies or summaries of any Data Protection Impact Assessments, surveillance impact assessments, risk assessments or equality impact assessments relating to:

- * CCTV integration***
- * shared operational systems***
- * remote access***
- * vendor/contractor access***
- * live monitoring***

- * footage sharing.*
- 2. Copies of current policies, procedures or governance documents relating to:**
 - * access to live CCTV*
 - * access to recorded CCTV*
 - * audit logging*
 - * footage export/disclosure*
 - * misuse prevention*
 - * insider threat mitigation.*
 - 3. A list of departments, operational units, contractors, software vendors or external bodies authorised to access live or recorded CCTV systems. I am not requesting names of individual staff members.**
 - 4. Copies or summaries of any data-sharing agreements, partnership agreements, memoranda of understanding or operational arrangements relating to CCTV access or footage sharing involving:**
 - * local authorities*
 - * TfGM*
 - * contractors*
 - * software vendors*
 - * external operational partners.*
 - 5. Details of any remote-access arrangements involving contractors or software vendors, including:**
 - * approval process*
 - * access logging*
 - * session retention*
 - * whether live or recorded footage may be viewed during maintenance/troubleshooting.*
 - 6. The number of recorded:**
 - * complaints*
 - * investigations*
 - * disciplinary matters*
 - * data breaches*
 - * unauthorised access incidents*
 - * inappropriate disclosure incidents*
 - * ICO referrals**relating to CCTV access or misuse from 2020 to present.*
 - 7. Copies or summaries of internal or external audit findings relating to CCTV governance, misuse prevention or access control from 2020 to present.**
 - 8. Whether risk assessments specifically considered misuse by:**
 - * authorised insiders*
 - * contractors*
 - * software vendors*
 - * external operational partners.*
 - 9. Whether any assessments considered risks to vulnerable individuals or groups, including:**
 - * LGBTQ+ individuals*
 - * minorities*
 - * stalking victims*
 - * whistleblowers*
 - * politically exposed individuals.*

Result of Searches

Following receipt of your request searches were conducted within Greater Manchester Police (GMP) to locate the requested information and I can confirm some of the information requested is held by GMP.

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

To respond to this request in full, it would require a manual review to be conducted for at least question 1 of this FOI, possible further reviews as searches progressed. The review would be needed due to how the requested information is stored. We currently have 330 Data Protection Impact Assessments (DPIA's) from 2020 to present and for us to review each one to ascertain if they relate to the following below would exceed 18hrs.

- * ***CCTV integration***
- * ***shared operational systems***
- * ***remote access***
- * ***vendor/contractor access***
- * ***live monitoring***
- * ***footage sharing.***

A review of each of these would be needed and could take in the region of 15minutes each to complete. This FOI would take approximately 82hrs for this part of the request to be fulfilled.

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.

GMP 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 attempt to keep this within the fees limit, the information you are requesting will need revising with a substantial reduction in the timeframe, plus a reduction in the volume of required information. Requiring all copies of any DPIA, assessments, procedures etc would only add additional time to review to ensure they fit the criteria. With any request that requires a manual review there is always a chance of a request being refused under S12 due to the enormity of work that is usually needed to provide the data, therefore 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.