

Date: 28/08/2026
Our ref: 01/FOI/26/017338/S

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/26/017338/S

I write in connection with your request for information dated 29/07/2026, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

I recently read a very interesting article about Operation Hexagon which I understand is/was an operation run by Greater Manchester Police and other agencies looking to identify & prosecute individuals who exposed Racist Islamist Child Rape Gangs in the Greater Manchester Authority (GMA) area.

Under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act I would be grateful if you could provide the following information:

- 1. When was Operation Hexagon established.*
- 2. What was the duration of Operation Hexagon.*
- 3. Copy of the terms of reference for Operation Hexagon.*
- 4. Copy of the minutes of meetings in which Operation Hexagon was discussed with partner organisations such as GMCA.*
- 5. Details of how many individuals were arrested, charged & convicted of crimes as a result of Operation Hexagon.*
- 6. Details of the crimes the individuals in 5 (above) were charged with.*
- 7. What was the total cost of running Operation Hexagon, including the numbers and ranks of officers directly involved.*

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 the information requested is held by GMP.

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

GMP would be unable to answer this FOI in full without carrying out a full review manually in order to answer questions 4, 5 and 7. Information relating to these questions is not stored in any central

location, and as such a review of these is needed, for example, for question 7, would be required to contact all officers to see who worked on the operation in question. Some officers may only have spent a brief period supporting and it would need this review to establish how many worked in connection with the operation to then attempt to work out any costings. A full list of all the officers is not stored in any central location for easy extraction and so this review would be the only way to establish what data we hold to provide an accurate reply. Review of emails from all involved would also have to be trawled through to understand if we hold any information relative to Q4. All of this would not be achievable in under 18hrs.

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.

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 the removal of questions 4, 5 and 7. 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.

Should you wish to refine and resubmit your request in line with the advice above please respond to freedomofinformation@gmp.police.uk.

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

1. Operation Hexagon ran from September 2019 to February 2022.
2. Operation Hexagon ran from September 2019 to February 2022