

Date: 14th September 2026
Our ref: FOI/26/017604/R

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: FOI/26/017604/R

I write in connection with your request for information dated 07/09/2026, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

Please can I narrow the request to request the following documents:

- 1. The final operational order/policing plan for Manchester Village Pride 2026.*
- 2. The final briefing document, briefing slides, aide-memoire or written instructions issued generally to officers deployed within the Manchester Village Pride/Gay Village event area.*
- 3. Any document held centrally by the event commander, event planning team or officer responsible for the policing operation which states the legal basis upon which Manchester Pride was understood to be entitled to prevent persons without wristbands proceeding through event gates.*
- 4. Any final multi-agency/event briefing supplied to GMP by Manchester City Council or Manchester Pride concerning pedestrian access, gates and wristband requirements.*

I am no longer requesting searches of individual officers' email accounts, personal records or localised files.

If tactical or operationally sensitive information appears within these documents, please redact that information and disclose the remainder.

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 an exemption applies.

The Freedom of Information Act is a piece of legislation designed to give the public access to information held by public authorities. It exists to make the decisions of those authorities transparent and to keep the populace better informed regarding matters which affect them.

A Public Authority is able to refuse requests which can divert resources away from more deserving requests and other public business, or threaten to undermine the credibility of the freedom of information system. It is recognised that dealing with unreasonable requests can place a strain on resources and get in the way of delivering mainstream services. This is particularly relevant at this time due to the ongoing demand on GMP's FOI unit.

When identifying potentially vexatious requests the indicators contained within the Information Commissioner's guidance on Section 14(1) should be considered. In this case we feel the following indicator applies:

Burden on the Authority

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 14(1) of FOIA a request deemed as overly burdensome does not oblige GMP to comply with a request for information.

The ICO confirms within their guidance that they consider there to be a high threshold for refusing a request on such grounds if there is a viable case in line with the below recommendations:

- 1) The requester has asked for a substantial volume of information and
- 2) The authority has real concerns about potentially exempt information, which it will be able to substantiate if asked to do so by the ICO and
- 3) Any potentially exempt information cannot easily be isolated because it is scattered throughout the requested material.

As such your request is being refused due to the amount of time required to review and prepare the information for disclosure, which would impose grossly oppressive burden on the organisation.

To provide the information requested would involve reviewing and redacting each individual document as they contain sensitive and personal information which could identify directly/indirectly a living human therefore Section 40(2) Personal Information will be engaged as this represents information that identifies a living individual. In addition, all the documents relevant to this request contain a large amount of operational information which will engage Section 31(1) Law Enforcement. Following the initial manual review, the relevant business areas would then need to assess the redacted documents prior to disclosure.

There is a total of 15 documents relevant to this request totalling 270 pages. At a very conservative estimate of 5 minutes to review and redact each page, it would take approximately 22.5 hours to prepare the information for disclosure.

For this reason, any requests of this nature will be refused under Section 14(1) of the Freedom of Information Act, which states that requests that are considered to be vexatious do not have to be complied with.