

Information Compliance & Records Management Unit
Information Services Branch
Greater Manchester Police

Via [REDACTED]

Our ref: GSA 628/18

When emailing or telephoning
please ask for [REDACTED]

20th April 2018

Dear [REDACTED],

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: GSA 628/18

I write in connection with your request for information dated 05/03/2018, I note you seek access to the following information:

- 1. What practical procedure/s does your force have in place to ensure the review and or deletion of custody images after 6 years?***
- 2. If there is a procedure in place, how many images have been deleted as the result of a periodic review (rather than following an individual's application for deletion)?***
- 3. How many images on your custody image database are of unconvicted persons?***
- 4. Since February 2017, how much has your force spent on the deletion of custody images of unconvicted people?.***

Result of Searches

Greater Manchester Police (GMP) does not hold the information that you have requested in an easily retrievable format. To provide the data requested within question would involve a manual search of all custody images to establish which were on records of someone who has been arrested but not convicted.

As there are around 1.4 million images currently held, to manually review each record would take many thousands of hours and so to comply with the whole of your request the process would therefore take over 18 hours work and exceeds the appropriate limit of £450.00, the amount to which we are legally required to respond.

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.

In this instance, Greater Manchester Police will be unable able to provide advice for you to reduce the request in order for the force to keep this within the fees limit in accordance with Section 16(1), the duty to provide advice and assistance, of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

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

Responses

1. We do not have a procedure currently in place to periodically / proactively review custody images. We would consider deletion of the custody image as part of a triggered review under the Management of Police Information guidelines and upon request to have the image removed.

2. N/A

4. Financial data is not kept to this level as such work would be completed as part of core duties.

Complaint Rights

Your attention is drawn to the attached sheet, which details your right of complaint.

Should you have any further queries concerning this matter, please write or contact me on telephone number 0161 856 2831 quoting the reference number above.

Yours sincerely,


Information Compliance and Records Management Unit

COMPLAINT RIGHTS

Are you unhappy with how your request has been handled or do you think the decision is incorrect?

You have the right to require Greater Manchester Police to review their decision.

Prior to lodging a formal complaint you are welcome and encouraged to discuss the decision with the case officer that dealt with your request.

Ask to have the decision looked at again –

The quickest and easiest way to have the decision looked at again is to telephone the case officer that is nominated at the end of your decision letter.

That person will be able to discuss the decision, explain any issues and assist with any problems.

Complaint

If you are dissatisfied with the handling procedures or the decision of Greater Manchester Police made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 regarding access to information, you can lodge a complaint with Greater Manchester Police to have the decision reviewed.

Complaints should be made in writing and addressed to:

Information Compliance & Records Management Unit Manager
Information Services Branch
Greater Manchester Police
Openshaw Complex
Lawton Street
Openshaw
Manchester
M11 2NS

The Information Commissioner

After lodging a complaint with Greater Manchester Police if you are still dissatisfied with the decision you can make an application to the Information Commissioner for a decision on whether the request for information has been dealt with in accordance with the requirements of the Act.

For information on how to make an application to the Information Commissioner please visit their website at www.ico.org.uk/. Alternatively, phone or write to:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF
Phone: 01625 545 700