

**Information Access Team  
Information Services Branch**

Morgane Dussud  
Access Info Europe

Our ref: GSA1642/13

When calling or telephoning  
please ask for Caroline Barker

23<sup>rd</sup> May 2013

Dear Morgane Dussud,

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 1642/13**

I write in connection with your request for information dated 24<sup>th</sup> April 2013. I note you seek access to the following information:-

**For the question below, please provide information and/or documents relating to the activities of the police forces in situations of protest. We refer to “protest” as assemblies of people (including marches, demonstrations, rallies etc) in which the motive for the assembly, usually in a public place, is for the purposes of expressing themselves about issues of concern.**

**1. For all the equipment types available for use by police officers in situations of protest that are supplementary to normal police equipment, please provide me with data including:**

- a. The number of items in the possession of police forces for each equipment type;**
- b. The amount of times that such equipment types have been used in the last five years.**

**Result Of Searches**

Unfortunately to obtain information relating to your request is not easily retrievable, in particular 1b, to provide the number of times that such equipment has been used would involve liaising with all divisions and particular units within the force as well as establishing all protests (marches / demonstration's / rallies etc.) that took place over the said time period. Therefore, to comply with the whole of your request the process would take over 18 hours work and therefore exceeds the appropriate limit of £450.00 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 Section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, this letter acts as a Refusal Notice for your request.

Section 16 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, providing advice and assistance. You may wish to refine your request by specifying the type of protest and the type of equipment and perhaps reducing the time frame.

### **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 [REDACTED] quoting the reference number above.

Yours sincerely

**Caroline Barker**  
Information Access Officer

## 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:

Freedom of Information Officer  
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.informationcommissioner.gov.uk](http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk). Alternatively, phone or write to:

Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire  
SK9 5AF  
Phone: [REDACTED]