

Dear FOI Officer,

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I am requesting the following information relating to social housing delivery in Greater Manchester, specifically Tameside, covering the period from January 2025 to the present date.

Requested Information

Please note: Regarding all requested correspondence, meeting notes, and internal communications, the focus of this request is on the substance of the information, not the personal data of junior officials. To comply with Section 40 (Personal Information) of the Act, please feel free to redact the names and direct contact details of junior staff members. We are seeking the content of the communications, the dates, and the job titles/departments of the correspondents.

1. Social Housing Build Data

- The total number of social rent homes planned, approved, started, and completed in Tameside. Greater Manchester via received funds from GMCA.
- Projected versus actual figures for homes classified under “Affordable Rent,” “Social Rent,” and “Supported/SEND-linked Housing.”

2. Funding Allocation & Use

- Details of all capital and revenue allocations made by the GMCA or its delivery partners to Tameside Council or affiliated Registered Providers (RPs).
- Details of any clawbacks or unspent funds that have been returned to the GMCA.
- A breakdown of any Homes England funding that has been administered via the GMCA for use in Tameside.

3. Delivery Partners & Oversight

- A list of all RPs receiving GMCA funding for housing projects in Tameside.
- Any documents defining the oversight mechanisms in place, such as formal agreements, performance dashboards, or review meeting minutes.
- Any correspondence or meeting notes between the GMCA and Jigsaw Homes or Tameside Council regarding housing delivery timelines or failures.

4. Policy Interventions & Monitoring

- All internal memos, briefing papers, or minutes from the GMCA’s housing board or associated subcommittees that reference delays, under delivery, or SEND-linked housing needs in Tameside.

5. Correspondence Trail

- All emails, letters, or memos exchanged between the GMCA and:
 - Angela Rayner MP (in her Ministerial or constituency capacity)
 - Cllr Leanne Feeley or Cllr Andrew McLaren
 - Tameside Council senior officers (Director-level and above)

concerning housing delivery, underperformance, or public accountability queries.

6. Press Handling

- Copies of all internal communications, briefing materials, or media handling notes related to press enquiries submitted by the Tameside Independent or FOIGUK between June 2024 and the present.

Statement on the Overriding Public Interest

For clarity, I am asserting that there is a significant and overriding public interest in the disclosure of this information. While I understand that some information may attract qualified exemptions, the public interest in withholding it is outweighed by the public interest in its release, for the following reasons:

1. **Senior Accountability:** The information relates directly to a severe social housing crisis in the constituency of the current Deputy Prime Minister and Secretary of State for Housing.
2. **Public Expenditure:** The request concerns the use of significant public funds at a time when over 7,000 households are on the housing waiting list in Tameside.
3. **Existing Public Debate:** This is not a speculative request. The matter is the subject of an active and ongoing journalistic investigation, and public awareness has already been established.
4. **Failure of Informal Channels:** The GMCA was given the opportunity to respond to these questions via a formal press enquiry, requested an extension, and then failed to respond. The formal FOI process is now the only remaining avenue for accountability.

I would prefer the information in a digital format. If any element of this request is likely to exceed cost limits, please advise so the scope can be refined.

In accordance with the Act, if you determine that any part of the requested information is exempt from disclosure, I request that you release all non-exempt information. Please redact only the specific parts you believe are exempt and, for each redaction, please specify which exemption you are applying.

Yours sincerely,

Jason Nield

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