



Date: 15/12/2023  
Our ref: 01/FOI/23/011698/A

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/23/011698/A**

I write in connection with your request for information dated 21/11/2023, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

*As a freedom of information request, please provide the data regarding the Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme (also known as Clare's Law). For this request, please provide the following data from 2014 up until the most current date available at the point of production. If data as early as 2014 is not available, please provide it from the first available date onwards.*

*Please provide annual totals of:*

- The number of 'right to know' applications
- The number of 'right to ask' applications

*If available, please also provide annual totals of:*

- The number of 'right to know' applications which resulted in disclosure after 28 days, and the number which resulted in disclosure after 35 days.
- The number of 'right to ask' applications which resulted in disclosure after 28 days, and the number which resulted in disclosure after 35 days.

*Additionally, if available, please also provide:*

- For each year, the longest time it took for a 'right to ask' disclosure to be provided
- For each year, the longest time it took for a 'right to know' disclosure to be provided

## **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, Greater Manchester Police (GMP) does not hold the information that you have requested in an easily retrievable format. To provide the data requested would involve a manual search of all Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme (DVDS) disclosures to establish the length of time taken, as we only started recording this information centrally in 2023.

A search of our DVDS records show that since 2019, there are 5,041 cases that would have to be reviewed. At a very conservative estimate of 5 minutes to locate, retrieve and review each file it would take approximately 420 hours to ascertain the data required, and that would only be for cases since 2019. Please note, that due to a change in GMP computer systems in 2019, records on DVDS prior to 2019 are no longer accessible.

Therefore, to comply with the whole of your request the process would take over 18 hours' work which exceeds the appropriate limit of £450.00, the amount to which we are legally required to respond. As per section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the cost of providing you with the information is therefore 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 keep this within the fees limit, the information that you are requesting will need to be reduced to a greatly reduced time period. 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](mailto:freedomofinformation@gmp.police.uk)