



Date: 09/10/2023
Our ref: 01/FOI/23/011312/V

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/23/011312/V

I write in connection with your request for information dated 12/09/2023, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

I am writing to seek information about the total quantity of drugs and legal highs which have been seized by the force over the last two financial years.

- 1. Please could you provide a full list of drugs seized by the force for the years 2021/22 and 2022/23 - including the type of drug/substance and the quantity (or weight), along with an estimated value.*
- 2. Please could you also provide a list of what disposal action was taken with each seizure (eg: kept for exhibition, destroyed, or any other action).*
- 3. I would be grateful if you could also provide as part of this request an explanation about the force's disposal/destruction policy for illegal drugs - and/or forward any document which explains this policy.*

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 about estimated

weight and value would involve a manual search of all property records for your requested period.

A search of property records shows that in your requested timeframe, there were 400 entries under the dugs category. At a very conservative estimate of 5 minutes to locate, retrieve and review each file it would take approximately 33 hours to ascertain the data required.

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