



Date: 22/11/2023
Our ref: 01/FOI/23/011571/M

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/23/011571/M

I write in connection with your request for information dated 28/10/2023, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

My request relates to attempts to enter the secure zones of party conferences. This request is being sent to you as Manchester was the location of Conservative Party Conference. Similar requests are being made to other forces.

I want to know how many people were arrested for suspicion of any offense at all in which there was a suspicion that the offense was committed with the intention of attempting to gain unauthorised access to the 2023 Conservative Party Conference.

Can you list the number of people for each offense, or confirm that no arrests were made.

I understand that GMP also vet delegates for all conferences. If this is the case then I would like to request the number of people arrested ahead of the conferences as a result of your vetting.

Once again people list numbers for each offense but additionally which conference they had applied to.

In order to avoid wasting public resources I want to be clear that this FOI is intended to clarify the extent to which illegal tactics are being used to infiltrate these sort of events.

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 arrests during the days of the Conservative Party Conference, and the days leading up to it, to see which are relevant to your request.

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.

In this instance, Greater Manchester Police will be unable able to provide advice for you to reduce the request 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.

Should you wish to refine and resubmit your request in line with the advice above please respond to freedomofinformation@gmp.police.uk