

Date: 21st August 2024
Our ref: FOI/24/012957/Z

I write in connection with your request for information dated 19/07/2024, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

I am seeking statistics and information regarding the time use of front line police officers within the Greater Manchester Police for any available years between 2010 and 2020. Please provide the following information, if available:

- ***How front-line officers allocate their time between administrative tasks (e.g., paperwork) and operational duties (e.g., patrolling, responding to calls), including time spent in stations. If available, please provide the break-down of the average number of hours per shift***
- ***The average percentage of time that front officers spend within the station***
- ***The average number of hours per shift an officer is not busy and available to respond to incidents and attend calls***

If exact data for this period is unavailable, please provide the closest available data and specify the years it covers. Additionally, if only some of the requested information is available, please share what you can.

I would appreciate references to any documents released after 2009 that contain relevant information.

Result of Searches

Following receipt of your request searches were conducted within Greater Manchester Police (GMP) to locate information relevant to your request. I can confirm that the information you have requested is held by GMP.

However, GMP does not hold the information that you have requested in an easily retrievable format.

To determine how front-line officers allocate their time between administrative tasks and operational duties would require us to contact every officer within the force and ask them to manually review their shift patterns and pocket notebooks we would then have to manually calculate average times. As such, it would extensively exceed the 18 hour limit to provide a response.

Therefore as per section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the cost of providing you with the information is 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.

However, in accordance with Section 16(1) – the duty to provide advice and assistance – of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, 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.

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