

Date: 09/08/2024
Our ref: 01/FOI/24/013046/Z

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/24/013046/Z

I write in connection with your request for information dated 01/08/2024, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

- 1. *-The number of reports involving the key words 'QR fraud' or 'QR scam' or 'QR' from 2022 to now. Please provide a month by month breakdown.***
- 2. *-Details of the allegation made including the exact location the offence allegedly took place (for example an NCPP car park) and the original purpose of the QR code (for example to pay for parking, or order a meal online).***
- 3. *-The number of arrests and or charges made***

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

For GMP to respond to this request a manual review will be required of all the results containing the keywords laid out above. Searching with keywords containing QR can bring back many results that are not relevant, such as QR may appear in a postcode etc, and a review is needed to ensure accuracy in reporting. Along side this the review will extend to any results that contain arrest data to ensure they are connected to the QR offence. Some arrests can take place, but any charges provided may be for additional offences and so again the review will outline the accurate data relating to this request. We would also use this review to ensure we hold the location/purpose as there is no field for this in reporting to retrieve this easily. Initial searches have provided approximately 124 records and at a conservative estimate of 10mins per review, this request will take in the region of 20hrs to provide any information held.

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.

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 you are requesting will need revising to a shorter time frame or the removal of Q3 to reduce the time of the review. However, 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.