

Date: 22/07/2024
Our ref: 01/FOI/24/012900/I

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/24/012900/I

I write in connection with your request for information dated 0807/2024, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

I am writing to request information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. I would like to request the following information:

- The number of Palestine protestors arrested at protests or marches in Manchester city centre over the past nine months.

If possible, please provide a breakdown of the arrests by month and any relevant details such as the nature of the offences and the outcomes of the arrests (e.g., charges, cautions, or releases without charge).

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.

Our system does not allow for direct reporting for arrests due to protests, and in this case due to 'Palestine Protest'. To provide a response for this query, we would need to complete a manual review on all the arrests within the locations of Manchester City Centre over your chosen time frame to see which highlighted the arrest was due to the Palestine Protest. Any other method of searching would provide unreliable data and so cannot be provided. Due to the number of arrests that will likely to have taken place this request will exceed the 18hrs permitted to provide the information being asked.

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 timeframe. With any request that requires a manual review there is always a chance of a request being refused under S12 due to the enormity of work that is usually needed to provide the data, therefore 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.