



Date: 12/06/2024
Our ref: 01/FOI/24/012527/H

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/24/012527/H

I write in connection with your request for information dated 24/06/2024, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

1. *How many referrals did Greater Manchester Police make to the Independent Office for Police Conduct after a missing person was found deceased in 2023?*
 - a. *Of these cases, please specify how many victims were male and how many were female.*
 - b. *Please specify how many cases had been categorised as low risk, how many were deemed medium risk and how many were deemed high risk.*
 - c. *Please specify how many were suspected victims of murder, manslaughter or foul play.*
2. *How many referrals did Greater Manchester Police make to the Independent Office for Police Conduct after a missing person was found deceased in 2018?*
 - a. *Of these cases, please specify how many victims were male and how many were female.*
 - b. *Please specify how many cases had been categorised as low risk, how many were deemed medium risk and how many were deemed high risk.*
 - c. *Please specify how many were suspected victims of murder, manslaughter or foul play.*

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, Greater Manchester Police 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 professional standards records to establish if the records are relevant to your request. GMP's Professional Standards Directorate changed records management systems in 2020. Therefore, the information requested in question 2 can not be searched for through data extracts. The only option for collating this information would be to manually review all records for 2018 so see if they are relevant to your request. Whilst the information requested in question 1 can be collated from data extracts, the resulting records would still require a manual review to see if they are relevant to your sub-questions.

A search of our records shows that there are over 500 records that would need to be manually reviewed. At a very conservative estimate of 15 minutes to locate, retrieve and review each file it would take approximately 125 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