



Date: 21/05/2024
Our ref: 01/FOI/24/012409/C

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/24/012409/C

I write in connection with your request for information dated 22/03/2024, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

Having learned via The Guardian that peaceful protestor [REDACTED] was arrested and taken to Bury station for chanting - and ultimately, I feel, for being a female who responded to threats of arrest from the police - I am curious to discover why exactly it was that Bury Station was the station to which she was taken? It is some way out of the city centre and I am concerned that there have been other women who have reported being taken to Bury Station after having some form of contact with the police (so, in other words, no member of the public has complained about these women; only serving police officers). I am further concerned that women who have been taken to Bury Station have been described in police officers' own "Victim Impact Statements" explicitly as "left wing" and I would like to see investigation into the numbers of women being taken to Bury Station after having caused some minor offence to a serving member of Greater Manchester Police.

I also note your clarification dated 21/04/2024:

It would be all codes surely? My interest is not in what women have been arrested for, but who they've been arrested by - ie. all arrests served against women where the listed victim is a serving or former serving officer of Greater Manchester police. I want the numbers of these types of arrest, made within the last 10 years.

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.

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 custody records from the last ten years to establish if the record related to a crime committed against a serving GMP officer.

A preliminary search of our custody records shows that for violence and harassment arrests alone 118,179 records that would have to be manually reviewed. At a very conservative estimate of 5 minutes to locate, retrieve and review each file it would take over 9,000 hours to ascertain the data required, and that would only be violence and harassment arrests, not all others.

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