

Date: 23rd May 2024
Our ref: FOI/24/012665/Q

I write in connection with your request for information dated 21/05/2024, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request the following information from you. This should all be for the five years up to the date of your reply. With apologies, this is replacing the similar request I sent through in recent days

- 1. What proportion of police officers vetted during the recruitment process passed the vetting process?***
- 2. What proportion of a) white b) black c) Asian d) Arab e) Chinese f) Indian g) mixed white and black h) mixed black and Asian i) non-white officers passed the vetting process?***
- 3. Please note: for the second request regarding the ethnic background of the individuals, please provide all the information you have regarding each ethnicity, and the non-white statistic as well.***

If it is not possible to provide the information requested due to the information exceeding the cost of compliance limits identified in Section 12, please provide advice and assistance, under the Section 16 obligations of the Act, as to how I can refine my request.

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 obtain the information requested would require us to conduct a manual search of the vetting system. In the last five years GMP have updated the recording system which means it is now paperless. Changes have also been made to how statistical information and protected characteristics are recorded. Therefore, to collate any data required would require manually checking thousands of records which would take weeks and as such this exceeds the 18 hour cost limit.

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 that you are requesting will need to be reduced to a much shorter 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