

Our ref: 01/FOI/24/013164/E

Please quote our reference
number when responding

Thursday, 12 September 2024

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/24/013164/E

I write in connection with your request for information dated 24/08/2024, I note you seek access to the following information:

- 1. For each of the last five financial years, please provide the number of (i) officers and (ii) staff with a recorded business interest.*
- 2. For the most recent financial year only (2023/24), please break down the recorded business interests to show the numbers (i) volunteering (ii) in self-employment and (iii) in paid employment with other organisations.*
- 3. For the most recent financial year only, please provide a breakdown of the figures to show those in (i) self-employment and (ii) paid employment with other organisations by employment nature.*
- 4. For the most recent financial year only, please provide the number of (i) officers and (ii) staff whose applications to pursue business interests you refused. Please specify how many of each (i) appealed and (ii) had their refused decision overturned on appeal.*

Additional request received on 02/09/2024

- 5. Please specify the number of officers with 'property letting' business interests (2023/24).*

Result of Searches

Following receipt of your request searches were conducted within Greater Manchester Police to locate information relevant to your request. I can confirm that the information you have requested is held by Greater Manchester Police.

However, GMP does not hold the information that you have requested in an easily retrievable format. We cannot provide the data regarding Parts 2 and 3 on 'Self-Employment' and 'In paid employment with other organisations' as we don't record Business Interest (BI) in this way and it would mean going through every single BI record to provide this information. From initial searches carried out between January 2023 and August 2024 a total of 655 records would need to be manually reviewed. As such, it is anticipated it would take in excess of 18hours to provide the requested information.

Please note Part 5 was not completed due the appropriate time was met from prior parts.

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.

In this instance, Greater Manchester Police will be unable able to provide advice for you to reduce the request in order for the force to keep this within the fees limit in accordance with Section 16(1), the duty to provide advice and assistance, of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Although excess costs remove GMP's obligations under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, as a gesture of goodwill (see below information), I have supplied information, relative to your request, that was retrieved / available before it was realised that the fees limit would be exceed. I trust this is helpful, but it does not affect our legal right to rely on the fees regulations for the remainder of your request.

Part 1

We only hold the records in calendar year, not financial, so these figures are from **January to December** for each year:

2020 53 in total – 15 of which are staff

2021 68 in total – 22 of which are staff

2022 207 in total – 73 of which are staff

2023 359 in total – 100 of which are staff

2024 296 in total (up to 28/08/2024) – 114 of which are staff

Part 2

(i)For Jan 2023 to Dec 23 – 21 police officers and staff registered BI as a Volunteer

For Jan 2024 to now 2024 – 36 police officers and staff registered BI for a Volunteer (up to 28/08/2024)

Part 4

From Jan 2024 to 28/08/2024 we have refused 19 BI. No one appealed in 2024.