



Date: 18/09/2024
Our ref: 01/FOI/24/013182/G

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/24/013182/G

I write in connection with your request for information dated 28/08/2024, 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 be grateful if you could provide the following details regarding your police force's IT expenditure for the past three fiscal years (from 2021/22 to 2023/24):

1. *Total IT Expenditure:*
 - *Please provide the overall IT expenditure for each of the last three fiscal years.*
2. *Software Expenditure:*
 - *Please provide the total spend on software for each of the last three fiscal years. This should include initial software licence fees, software maintenance fees, and subscription fees but should exclude associated services such as installation.*
3. *Software Expenditure within Investigation Departments:*
 - *Please provide a breakdown of the total spend on software, as defined above, specifically within investigation departments for each of the last three fiscal years. This should relate to software primarily used by investigation teams, as opposed to being used across the wider police force.*
 - *If possible, please provide a breakdown of the total spend on software, as defined above, specifically within each investigation department (e.g. cyber crime, economic crime, etc) listed above for each of the last three fiscal years. This should relate to software primarily used by*

investigation teams, as opposed to being used across the wider police force.

Result of Searches

Greater Manchester Police (GMP) does not hold the information that you have requested in an easily retrievable format. To provide the information requested in question 3 would involve a manual search of all software in use to establish if it is used in investigative departments.

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 specific department within GMP, or a specific software. 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.

Although excess costs remove GMP's obligations under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, as a gesture of goodwill I have supplied information relative to questions 1 and 2 of your request, that was retrieved 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.

	<u>2021/22</u>	<u>2022/23</u>	<u>2023/24</u>
Q1. Total IT Expenditure (£)	30,762,713	37,779,346	34,657,861
Q2. Software Expenditure (£)	17,323,331	18,433,854	18,944,501