



Date: 12/08/2025
Our ref: 01/FOI/25/015121/A

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/25/015121/A

I write in connection with your request for information dated 16/07/2025, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

I am submitting this request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. I would be grateful if you could provide the following information for each of the last five years (2019–2024), or for the period for which records are available.

Request

1. *How many Moroccan nationals in the UK on a spouse visa have reported being victims of coercive or controlling behaviour, under the Domestic Abuse Act 2021 or other related legislation?*
2. *Of those cases:*
 - a. *How many reports led to a police investigation?*
 - b. *How many led to an arrest of the British spouse?*
 - c. *How many resulted in a “No Further Action” (NFA) outcome?*
3. *How many of those Moroccan spouse visa holders who made such allegations:*
 - a. *Were referred for safeguarding support or protection services?*
 - b. *Made further reports of repeated coercive control?*
 - c. *Reported financial control or restricted access to communication, travel, or legal advice?*

4. *If your records extend to immigration-related data, please indicate whether your force holds or has submitted any records or evidence that contributed to Moroccan nationals on spouse visas being:*
- a. *Granted Indefinite Leave to Remain (ILR) following reports of domestic abuse or coercive control.*
 - b. *Granted a visa extension on the basis of domestic violence or safeguarding needs.*

If the information is not recorded in this precise format, please provide the closest available data relating to:

- *Nationality: Moroccan*
- *Visa type: Spouse/dependent (if available)*
- *Claims: Coercive or controlling behaviour*
- *Police response/outcome: Investigation, arrest, NFA, safeguarding referrals*
- *Any indications that such reports contributed to immigration case outcomes (e.g. ILR or visa extension)*

Result of Searches

Greater Manchester Police (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 crimes recorded under 008/67 (Engage in Controlling/Coercive Behaviour in an Intimate/Family Relationship) to see if the person involved was a Moroccan citizen in the United Kingdom on a spousal visa.

A search of our crime records shows that there are 14,327 crimes 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 approximately 1,194 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.