

Date: 07/08/2025
Our ref: 01/FOI/25/015089/R

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/25/015089/R

I write in connection with your request for information dated 11/07/2025, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

As at 1 July 2025, or as reasonably close thereto as possible, please can you provide:

(1) The nationality of all serving police officers. Where an officer holds more than one nationality, please list them all.

***e.g. British x 100 officers
Irish x 3 officers
French x 2 officers***

(2) The first language of all serving officers. Where an officer states they are bilingual or multilingual, please list them all.

***e.g. English x 100 officers
Arabic x 3 officers
Yoruba x 2 officers***

(3) The number of serving officers who *don't* hold a grade 'C' or above at GCSE English language (or equivalent).

(4) For each officer who holds an "equivalent" qualification to grade 'C' at GCSE English language, please list the number and type of equivalent qualification

e.g. O-Level English pass x 100 officers, International Baccalaureate (English language) x 2 officers

(5) The total number of serving officers.

Result of Searches

Following receipt of your request searches were conducted within Greater Manchester Police (GMP) to locate the requested information and I can confirm the information requested is held by GMP.

However, GMP does not hold some the information that you have requested in an easily retrievable format.

GMP would be unable to respond to questions 2, 3 and 4 of this request without carrying out a manual review of all the officers personal records. The information being requested is not held in a centrally retrievable file. We would not hold GCSE information for the 7,879 Officers that has been provided. The Policing Education Qualifications Framework only came into practice in September 2021, and so a manual trawl of all applications from 2021 would be needed and we would need to source clarification of the number of officers still in Force from this date to see what data we hold. Given the number of officers that fall into scope, this request would not be achievable in under 18hrs.

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 attempt to keep this within the fees limit, the information you are requesting will need revising with the removal of question 2, 3 and 4.

With any request that requires a manual review there is always a chance of a request being refused under S12 due to the enormity of work that is usually needed to provide the data, therefore 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 some information relative to your request that was retrieved before it was realised that the fees limit would be exceed (see below information). I hope that this is of use to you, but it does not affect our legal right to rely on the fee's regulations for the remainder of your request.

Question 5.

As of the 30th of June 2025 GMP had 7,879 Officers (excluding external secondments and career breaks)