

Date: 05/12/2025
Our ref: 01/FOI/25/015799/O

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/25/015799/O

I write in connection with your request for information dated 06/11/2025, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

Use of s.136 Mental Health Act 1983: police power, non-warrant to remove an individual to a place of safety

1) Please detail the level of s.136 MHA 1983 provision of non-warrant removal of a person to a place of safety within your force area between 2018 and 2025, by reference to age, gender, ethnicity etc. If, possible please detail any 'repeated' use of the power against the same person.

2) Detail the systems used to provide for s.136(1C) MHA 1983, the consultation of a registered medical practitioner, registered nurse or an AMPH - prior to utilising s.136 powers of detention in a place of safety. Please provide evidence of procedures, screen grabs of systems tools, or policies that enable this provision.

3) Detail the proportion of s.136 use, where the police constable has engaged in consultation, as per s.136C MHA 1983 prior to taking this action.

4) Please provide systems mapping of places of safety in your policing area.

5) Detail the place of safety utilised by frequency, by reference to the classifications at s.135(6) MHA 1983 and for use within s.136 MHA 1983.

a) residential accommodation provided by a local social services authority under [F15Part 1 of the Care Act 2014 or] [F16Part 4 of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014] F17. . .

b) an NHS hospital

c) an independent hospital or registered establishment) for mentally disordered persons

d) a police station

e) private dwelling (s.135(7))

f) or any other suitable place

6) Please provide specific policies for your policing area in respect of determining the place of safety utilised, e.g. factors providing for mode of 'disposal' - biographical information, distance etc.

7) Please provide training and CPD on use of s.136 power - e.g. power-points, tests

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 some of the information requested is held by GMP.

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

GMP would be unable to fulfil this FOI request in full without carrying out a manual review for multiple questions above. Questions 1, 3, and 4 fall into the remit of review required because this information is not stored in any central location for the years requested and as such multiple files and logs would have to be trawled through consisting of over 12,000 results. Due to the scale of review that would need to be taken, this request would far exceed the limits set out in the FOIA.

If one part of the request engages a Section 12 response, the whole request will engage a Section 12 response. The reason being is locating, retrieving and extracting any further information would only add to the already exceeded time obligations and so no other searches have been completed at this stage.

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 a reduced time frame, the removal of question 1, 3 and 4 and/or a reduction in the whole level of information requested. 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.