

Date: 28th January 2025
Our ref: FOI/25/014022/Q

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: FOI/25/014022/Q

I write in connection with your request for information dated 20/01/2025, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

Thanks for your response! Would you be able to provide me with data from April 2023, without the break-in reason attached?

Original Request

We are conducting research on the use of emergency securing services (such as boarding up and securing buildings) for the UK police force. As part of this research, we would like to find out the following information about your police force's practices in this area. Specifically, we are looking to cover the following:

Scenarios and Usage:

- In what scenarios do you use emergency securing services? Are there standard guidelines or policies governing when these services are used?

Frequency:

- How many cases require emergency securing services annually (ideally from 2010 to 2024)? If possible, please provide a geographical breakdown and include the cause of forced entry (i.e. executing a search warrant, immigration, etc).

Service Providers:

***- Who are the main providers or contractors engaged for emergency securing services?
- What proportion of emergency securing services does each contractor achieve?***

Expenditure and remuneration:

- How are these services funded – is there a framework in place (if so, please provide detail)? Which parties are responsible for remunerating the emergency securing service contractor (please provide any data that shows a breakdown of this)?
- If possible, please provide a breakdown of the services used (e.g. locksmith, boarding[1]up, etc) and the incurred cost, and the average cost per emergency securing process.
- What has been the annual expenditure on emergency securing services for each year from 2010 to 2024?

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.

Scenarios and Usage:

- In what scenarios do you use emergency securing services? Are there standard guidelines or policies governing when these services are used?

- Forced Entry
- Burglary
- Securing vacant properties
- Criminal damage

Frequency:

- How many cases require emergency securing services annually (ideally from 2010 to 2024)? Would you be able to provide me with data from April 2023, without the break-in reason attached?

From the 06.04.2023 to 21.01.2025 GMP have attended 4,555 boarding and glazing jobs.

Service Providers:

- Who are the main providers or contractors engaged for emergency securing services?

Boing Rapid Secure Limited.

- What proportion of emergency securing services does each contractor achieve?

N/A – GMP only have one provider.

Expenditure and remuneration:

- How are these services funded – is there a framework in place (if so, please provide detail)? Which parties are responsible for remunerating the emergency securing service contractor (please provide any data that shows a breakdown of this)? – Please see below

- If possible, please provide a breakdown of the services used (e.g. locksmith, boarding[1]up, etc) and the incurred cost, and the average cost per emergency securing process. – We are unable to breakdown the below figures.

- What has been the annual expenditure on emergency securing services for each year from 2010 to 2024?

Year	Spend
2015/16	£96,227.03
2016/17	£100,053.99
2017/18	£100,998.38

2018/19	£92,827.38
2019/20	£103,880.34
2020/21	£79,911.61
2021/22	£20,351.40
2022/23	£35,603.20
2023/24	£92,646.10
2024/25	£14,381.10

Payments

GMP will only pay for the costs for the following reasons:

- Forced entry as a result of the execution of a warrant(s)
- Forced entry for the arrest of a suspect
- Forced entry following- a search after an arrest
- Forced entry following a search upon an arrest
- Forced entry in compliance with a Court Order
- Forced entry of a suspected crime scene
- Debt which remains outstanding. These will only be paid by GMP after an agreed debt recovery process, where the Contractor cannot obtain payment.

The Contractor shall collect payment from the home owner/occupier/other third party for the following emergency boarding-up costs:

- Burglary where there is no forced entry
- Securing vacant, insecure or neglected properties
- Forced entry by another Police Force
- Criminal damage where there is no forced entry by the Police
- Forced entry for welfare purposes
- Forced entry by the Fire Service
- Criminal damage caused by the tenant/owner/occupier
- Forced entry due to tenant/owner/occupier having lost keys or locked out of premises
- Re-entry or removal of boards at owners/tenants request
- New locks required when there is no forced entry by the police unless in exceptional circumstances