

Date: 4th January 2025
Our ref: FOI/25/014110/P

I write in connection with your request for information dated 03/02/2025, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

How many bodies have been pulled from rivers & canals (any body of water) in Manchester & Greater Manchester since 2000 ? If 2000 is too far to go back, I'd like the information from as far back as you're able to go, cost permitting.

The figures from 2 different documentaries & other MSM sources I've researched, differ significantly, but from my own research have increased since the time of filming. I'd be grateful to know what the current figure is, if available.

Result of Searches

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

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

To provide a response we would have to manually review all records logged on four separate Coroner trackers. Each individual record would need to be manually reviewed to establish the circumstances of the death. From an initial search from one tracker for 2024 alone shows a total of 775 records. At an estimate of 5 minutes per record for one tracker and one year only would take this request to in excess of 64.5 hours to determine the information required.

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.

In accordance with Section 16(1) – the duty to provide advice and assistance – of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, Greater Manchester Police will be unable able to provide advice for you to reduce the request in order for the force to keep this within the fees limit.

Should you wish to refine and resubmit your request in line with the advice above please respond to freedomofinformation@gmp.police.uk