



Date: 17/03/2025
Our ref: 01/FOI/25/014013/P

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/25/014013/P

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

- 1. In each of the last five calendar years (2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023), how much did the force spend on purchasing information from data brokers such as Experian, Equifax, Acxiom and others?
Please provide a full breakdown of spend with each provider in each calendar year.*
- 2. For what purposes does the force purchase information from data brokers?*

If it is not possible to provide the information requested due to the information exceeding the cost of compliance limits identified in Section 12, please provide advice and assistance, under the Section 16 obligations of the Act, as to how I can refine my request.

Thank you for your time and I look forward to your response.

Result of Searches

Information relating to question 2 of your request is not held in an easily retrievable format, if it is indeed held at all. There is no centrally held record of the reasons for payments to credit reference agencies and in order to provide such data would require each division, sub-division and possibly each individual officer to undertake necessary searches to establish if they have made any such payments and if so, for what reasons.

To comply with the whole of your request the process would take over 18 hours' work and therefore exceeds the appropriate limit of £450.00, 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. The only advice that GMP can give is that you specify a particular district within GMP to make your request more manageable within the fees limit of the act, although this still may not be possible for even one district.