



Date: 17/03/2025  
Our ref: 01/FOI/25/014278/Q

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/25/014278/Q**

I write in connection with your request for information dated 21/03/2025, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

- 1. The number of times the police responded to a call involving "unidentified aerial phenomena" "UAP" "unidentified flying object" or "UFO" from 2020 to current day broken down per year and borough of incident*
- 2. Instances where the police have responding officers also claim to see a "UAP" "UFO " unidentified flying object" "unidentified aerial phenomena" from 2020 to current day broken down per year and borough of incident*
- 3. Instances where the police have responded to incidents involving "drones" from 2020 to current day broken down per year and borough of incident*

**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 the data requested in question 2 would involve a manual review of each incident to see if the attending officers have also reported seeing a UFO/UAP. There is no searchable field on our incident recording system for UFO/UAP sighting so a manual review would be required to see if it is noted in the incident log.

A search of our incident records shows that there are 151 records that would have to be manually reviewed. At a very conservative estimate of 10 minutes to locate, retrieve and review each file it would take approximately 25 hours to ascertain the data required.

Therefore, to comply with the whole of your request the process would take over 18 hours' work which exceeds the appropriate limit of £450.00, the amount to which we are legally required to respond.

As per section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the cost of providing you with the information is therefore 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 keep this within the fees limit, the information that you are requesting will need to be reduced to a greatly reduced time period. 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](mailto:freedomofinformation@gmp.police.uk)