

Date: 18/03/2025

Our ref: 01/FOI/25/014294/Q

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/25/014294/Q

I write in connection with your request for information dated 25/02/2025, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request the following information. We would be grateful if you could provide me with:

- 1. The number of people who have experienced a seizure whilst in police custody in each of the last 10 years***
- 2. The number of people with epilepsy who have died while in police custody in each of the last 10 years***

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.

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

For GMP to be able to provide a response to question 1 of this request, it would require a substantial manual review of all the arrest records individually over the last 10 years to see if the detained person had a seizure whilst in custody. This is because we do not have a field on our system that allows for an easy extraction of this data. During this time there has been a total of 471,010 people arrested within GMP and so this request would not be able to be completed within the 18hrs permitted.

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 significantly smaller time frame. 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.