



Date: 08/01/2025
Our ref: 01/FOI/24/013796/E

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/24/013796/E

I write in connection with your request for information dated 10/12/2024, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

I am writing to request information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. I am conducting research into the welfare and mental health of police officers and am seeking data related to officer deaths and preventative measures. Please provide responses to the following questions.

Basic Data on Deaths

- 1. How many police officers were employed by your Constabulary each year between 2014 and 2025? Please show results on an annual basis (e.g., 2014 = 10,000, 2015 = 9,000).*
- 2. How many police officers have died whilst in service in your Constabulary each year between 2014 and 2025? Please show results on an annual basis.*
- 3. How many police officers in service in your Constabulary have died by suicide each year between 2014 and 2025? Please show results on an annual basis.*

Demographics of Officers

For each case of death whilst in service between 2014 and 2025:

- 4. Please provide anonymised demographic details: age, gender, rank, and length of service at the time of death.*
- 5. Specify whether the officer was in active service or on leave at the time of their death.*

6. Was the officer under investigation for misconduct or criminal offences at the time of their death? If so, please specify the nature of the investigation (e.g., misconduct, criminal, internal review).

For cases where the officer was under investigation for misconduct or criminal offences:

7. Was the investigation carried out by another agency? If so, which organisation?

8. How long was the officer under investigation for?

9. Was the officer suspended from their duties? If so, for how long?

10. Was there any record of suicidal thoughts, ideations, or attempts held by your Constabulary? If so, when was this recorded?

11. Were there any records indicating the officer reported work-related stress, PTSD, or other mental health challenges prior to their death?

Preventative Measures

12. What policies, practices, or programs does your force have in place to monitor and support the mental health of officers?

13. Have there been any reviews or evaluations of these measures since 2014? If so, please provide details or summaries.

14. What policies, practices, or programs does your force have in place to respond to a death in service?

15. Have there been any reviews or evaluations of these measures since 2014? If so, please provide details or summaries.

16. What is your Constabulary's current policy regarding updating police officers under investigation for criminal offences (e.g., frequency of contact, bail updates, charging decisions)?

17. What safeguarding measures does your organisation put in place for officers being charged with a criminal offence?

Training and Awareness

18. Do officers receive training on recognising and responding to mental health challenges in themselves and among peers?

19. If so, what does the training entail?

20. Have there been any reviews or evaluations of these measures since 2014? If so, please provide details or summaries.

Result of Searches

Greater Manchester Police (GMP) does not hold the information that you have requested in an easily retrievable format. To provide the data requested would involve a manual search of our professional standards records. Prior to February 2020, the majority of the information you are requesting was not captured on our professional standards IT system. Therefore, a manual review of all cases would be required to see if they are relevant to your request.

There were over 7,500 complaints and conduct cases received by our Professional Standards Directorate between 2016 and 2020. At a very conservative estimate of 5 minutes to locate, retrieve and review each file it would take approximately 625 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