

Date: 14th January 2025
Our ref: FOI/25/013906/N

I write in connection with your request for information dated 06/01/2025, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, please can you disclose the following information:

1. In the past 3 years, how many claims have been made against the police force? (Between March 31 - April 1) Broken down by years 2021/22, 2022/23, 2023/24.

1a. Can this be broken down by reason for the claim (i.e. traffic accident, assault, wrongful arrest, sexual misconduct, property damage etc.)

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 to question 1a would require a manual review of all claims to determine the reason for the claim e.g. wrongful arrest, assault etc. Each claim can have multiple reasons. An initial search of GMP's records returned 1,429 claims for the period requested. At a conservative estimate of 10 minutes per claim, this would take this request to in excess of 238 hours to ascertain the data 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.

However, 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

Although excess costs remove GMP's obligations under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, as a gesture of goodwill I have supplied some information relative to your request that was retrieved before it was realised that the fees limit would be exceed (see below information). I hope that this is of use to you, but it does not affect our legal right to rely on the fees regulations for the remainder of your request.

Year	Total
2021/22	333
2022/23	472
2023/24	624