

Date: 14/01/2025
Our ref: 01/FOI/25/013940/P

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/25/013940/P

I write in connection with your request for information dated 08/01/2025, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

Could you please provide me with a list of the occasions when armed police units have been sent to hospitals since January 1 2020.

For each occasion could you please give the date, the name of the hospital, the number of officers deployed and, if possible, a brief description of the incident.

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.

GMP would need to carry out a substantial review manually to examine every incident that armed officers attended within the last 5 years, to ascertain whether they attended a hospital as part of an ongoing incident. Due to how our system records data we are unable to identify the building type without carrying out the review. In the last 5 years there have been over 9,000 incidents requiring armed response and due to this large number GMP would be unable to locate and retrieve the data requested within the 18hrs permitted under the FOIA.

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.

In this instance, due to the substantial review required, Greater Manchester Police will be unable to provide advice for you to reduce the request in order for the force to keep this within the fees limit in accordance with Section 16(1), the duty to provide advice and assistance, of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.