

Date: 22nd July 2025
Our ref: FOI/25/015138/J

I write in connection with your request for information dated 18/07/2025, 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 to better understand the mental health challenges faced by police officers in the UK. To that end, I would be grateful if you could provide the following information for your force for each of the past 10 calendar years (2015 to 2025 inclusive):*

1. Police Officer Suicides

- *The number of police officers (serving or recently serving) who have died by suicide.*

2. Investigations at Time of Death

Of those officers who died by suicide:

- *How many were under investigation by your Professional Standards Department (PSD)?*
- *How many were under investigation by the Independent Office for Police Conduct (IOPC)?*

3. Occupational and Personal Context (if available and anonymised)

For each officer who died by suicide, please provide (where available and without compromising privacy):

- *Their role or department (e.g., frontline, CID, custody, firearms).*
- *Their length of service.*
- *Whether they had accessed internal mental health or wellbeing services.*
- *Whether they were on sick leave or had recently returned from sick leave.*
- *Whether they were subject to misconduct or disciplinary proceedings.*
- *Age, gender, and ethnicity (if recorded and anonymised).*

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. We do not hold this level of detail in our reporting system. To determine how an officer has died would require a manual review of all personnel files held. Approximately 13,900 personnel files would need to be manually reviewed to collate the data required for this request. As such, it is anticipated it would take in excess of 18 hours to provide the requested information.

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.

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