

Date: 29/05/2025
Our ref: 01/FOI/25/014630/M

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/25/014630/M

I write in connection with your request for information dated 18/04/2025, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

Can you please provide the following information:

1. The number of arrests prior to a police interview of the accused by GMP after an allegation of sexual assault has been made.
2. The number of requests for an interview - with no initial arrest - of the accused by GMP after an allegation of sexual assault has been made,
3. The number of arrests prior to a police interview of the accused by GMP after an allegation of rape has been made.
4. The number of requests for an interview of the accused by GMP after an allegation of rape has been made.
5. In both of these areas - the percentage of times GMP had the telephone number of the accused in their possession prior to a request for an interview or an arrest.

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 the data requested in questions 2 and 4 would involve a manual search of

all voluntary attendance records to determine whether the offence was sexual assault or rape and whether the offence classification changed after the interview.

A search of our custody and voluntary attendance records shows that there are over a thousand voluntary attendance records that would have to be manually reviewed. At a very conservative estimate of 5 minutes to locate, retrieve and review each file it would take approximately 83 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