



Date: 18/06/2025
Our ref: 01/FOI/25/014814/S

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/25/014814/S

I write in connection with your request for information dated 21/05/2025, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

I am writing under the freedom of information act 2000 to request the following information:

1. *How much of your constabulary's budget was spent on procuring restraints, tasers, and incapacitant chemicals from January 2020 to December 2024.*
 - *Could I possibly receive these figures broken down by type of equipment and by year, please.*
2. *How much of your constabulary's budget was spend on training to use each of these types of equipment from January 2020 to December 2024.*
 - *Could I please receive this information broken down by training for each type of equipment, and by year.*

I am treating this as a public interest request to foster transparency and trust with public services. I am also providing my name and contact details as outlined by the act for a valid request.

The act stipulates that I should receive a full response within 20 working days of you receiving my request. S16 of the act also says that as the relevant public authority, you should provide me with any assistance needed to refine my request should it exceed any cost/time limits. Could I please receive an acknowledgement that my request has been received?

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. The information requested in question 1 is not recorded in a format that would allow us to easily identify expenditure on specific items of safety equipment. To provide the data requested in question would involve a manual search of all items of expenditure to see if that item related to any of the equipment you have mentioned.

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.

Please be aware that information relating to the procurement contracts for TASERs and PAVA spray is available on the [Bluelight Public Contract Register](#). Search for "TASER" or "PAVA" in the contract title box and select Greater Manchester Police from the organisation drop-down menu.

Should you wish to refine and resubmit your request in line with the advice above please respond to freedomofinformation@gmp.police.uk