



Date: 23/06/2025
Our ref: 01/FOI/25/014853/Z

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/25/014853/Z

I write in connection with your request for information dated 26/06/2025, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

Under the Freedom of Information Act I would like to request the following information:

Statistics showing the number of people who have been arrested for possession of ketamine (class B) under the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 in each of the last 5 calendar years.

Specific offences:

- *Possession of a Controlled Drug – Class B (Ketamine)*
- *Possession of a Controlled Drug with Intent to Supply – Class B (Ketamine)*
- *Supply or Offer to Supply a Controlled Drug – Class B (Ketamine)*
- *Production or Cultivation of a Controlled Drug – Class B (Ketamine)*

And for each of those categories, are you able to break down the numbers to separate offenders over 18s and under 18s.

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 would involve a manual search of all arrest records for drug offences to see if the drug involved was ketamine.

A search of our custody records shows that there are 2,454 custody records that would have to be reviewed. At a very conservative estimate of 5 minutes to locate, retrieve and review each file it would take approximately 204 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