



Date: 21/05/2025
Our ref: 01/FOI/25/014654/U

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/25/014654/U

I write in connection with your request for information dated 24/04/2025, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

I checked firstly if there were any previous requests/data to assist me and there was not hence the email as per the instructions.

I am seeking information regarding the number of sudden death incidents, serious injury and industrial accidents you may have on your records on construction sites in the Greater Manchester Police area. Ideally for the last 3 years. (2 years data otherwise)

This information is requested in relation to my role within the construction sector (Construction Skills Certificate Scheme) to try to influence legislation/regulation regarding the passport of skills required to perform the numerous roles in the sector. There are several areas that are exploited that enables those insufficiently trained to be able to bypass the systems/processes in place.

There are 2.3 million working in the UK on construction sites. I am seeking this information from key locations across the UK in order to assist the Building/Construction industry improve safety and this data will certainly assist to influence change. You may or may not be aware of some recent building regulation/legislation as a result of the Grenfell Enquiry. The data sought is to reduce the likelihood of similar incidents due to the lack of training/qualifications that are obtained fraudulently.

Any additional information required regarding this request please let me know.

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 incidents recorded under the category of Sudden Death, Collapse/Injury/Illness/Trapped and Accidental Injury/Damage in order to determine which occurred at construction sites.

A search of our incident records shows that for just the last two years there are over 3,000 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 250 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.

I also advise that you make a request to the Health and Safety Executive, who may also be able to provide some information on this topic.

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