

Date: 21/05/2025

Our ref: 01/FOI/25/014720/N

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/25/014720/N

I write in connection with your request for information dated 07/05/2025, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

- 1. The number of requests your police force has made to dating app or dating website platforms (e.g., Tinder, Bumble, Grindr, Hinge, Plenty of Fish, Match.com, Feeld, etc.) regarding investigations or incidents, for each of the past two calendar years (e.g., 2023 and 2024).***
 - 2. For each year, please break down the number of requests by platform, if recorded.***
 - 3. If available, please also provide a brief description of the types of incidents that led to the requests (e.g., sexual assault, fraud, harassment), noting that no personally identifiable information is requested.***
- If it would reduce the cost of compliance, I am happy to receive data limited to the top five most-requested platforms or responses disregarding the breakdown of the types of incidents.***

Result of Searches

Following receipt of your request searches were conducted within Greater Manchester Police (GMP) to locate the requested information and I can confirm the information requested is held by GMP.

However, GMP does not hold the information that you have requested in an easily retrievable format.

GMP would not be able to respond to this request without carrying out a substantial review of multiple systems to locate and retrieve the information you require, as the data is not data that is held centrally. There are roughly 4,800 DPA files that would require a manual review. Each record would need to be assessed in order to locate which are related to the dating website platforms listed below. Each relevant record would then need to be cross referenced with separate systems in order to answer Q3. With 4,800 records at 5 minutes per record (including cross referencing) this request would be over 400 hours to complete.

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.

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 attempt to keep this within the fees limit, the information you are requesting will need revising with a reduced time frame. With any request that requires a manual review there is always a chance of a request being refused under S12 due to the enormity of work that is usually needed to provide the data, therefore 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.