

Date: 21/05/2025
Our ref: 01/FOI/25/014729/W

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/25/014729/W

I write in connection with your request for information dated 09/05/2025, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

- 1. How many defendants did Greater Manchester Police recommend should be remanded in prison custody over the last 12 months? (April 2024-April 2025)**
- 2. With reference only to the two-week period of Monday 23rd September 2024 - Sunday 6th October 2024, please provide:**
 - a) The total number of defendants Greater Manchester Police recommended should be remanded into prison custody (i.e. via the MG7 form)**
 - b) Out of those defendants the police recommended should be remanded in custody, how many were actually remanded into custody by the courts?**
 - c) Please provide this data broken down by:**
 - i) the relevant reasons for opposing bail (as selected on the MG7 form) and**
 - ii) the most serious offence the defendant was charged with.**

I understand that the data to question (2) is usually stored within individual custody records. To prevent this request causing an undue burden upon staff, if there is a very large quantity of remands sent to court within these two weeks, please limit the answer to this request to the first 100 defendants from that period. Using a previous estimate from South Wales Police that each custody record will take 2 minutes to interrogate (FOI 594/25), I believe this should require approximately 3.5 hours work.

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.

In relation to question 2, we would be unable to provide any breakdown requested without carrying out a substantial manual review of multiple systems to extract the information you are asking for. Our system does hold this part of the request in any other retrievable way. A test was completed to see how long each review would take, and even if we reduced the search to only the first 100 results as you mentioned, it would still take approximately over 65hrs at a rate of 35-40 minutes per each check.

If one part of the request engages a Section 12 response, the whole request will engage a Section 12 response. The reason being is locating, retrieving and extracting any further information would only add to the already exceeded time obligations and so no other searches have been completed at this stage.

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 to question 1 only.

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