

Date: 22/05/2025
Our ref: 01/FOI/25/014766/B

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/25/014766/B

I write in connection with your request for information dated 14/05/2025, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

Under the FOI Act 2000, I hereby request all recorded information held by Greater Manchester Police relating to legal actions and pre-action disputes brought against the force between 14 November 2024 and 14 May 2025. To assist you in managing costs under Section 12, I have divided my request into three distinct parts:

1. Court Proceedings / Formal Legal Actions

1.1 Please provide a list of every civil claim, court proceeding or formal legal action issued against GMP during the period, including (but not limited to):

Lost-property claims

Negligence/tort actions

Misfeasance in public office

Discrimination or human-rights suits

Other civil causes (e.g. unlawful detention)

1.2 For each case, supply (where recorded):

Case or claim reference number

Date filed

Claimant type (individual, corporate or “unknown”)

Subject matter (e.g. “delay returning seized property,” “alleged excessive force”)

Current status (“ongoing – awaiting trial,” “settled on DD MM YYYY,” “dismissed on DD MM YYYY”)

Third-party or co-defendant involvement (names or roles of insurers, external solicitors, contractors, co-defendants, etc.)

2. Pre-Action Protocol Disputes

2.1 Identify all disputes notified to GMP under any Civil Procedure Rules pre-action protocol (personal injury, negligence, discrimination, etc.) that have not proceeded to court because they were:

Ongoing (still at protocol stage)

Settled at the protocol stage

Abandoned by the claimant

Closed by GMP as non-actionable

2.2 For each dispute, please provide:

Protocol type (e.g. “personal injury,” “negligence”)

Date GMP received the protocol letter or notice

Brief description (e.g. “damage to vehicle during seizure,” “delay in returning property”)

Outcome or current status (“resolved by settlement on DD MM YYYY,” “closed – no further action,” “still under consideration”)

Third-party or co-defendant involvement, if any

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 some of the information requested is held by GMP.

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

GMP do not record these civil matters in the format that you have requested and so to respond to parts of this request would require a substantial interrogation of each record to locate and retrieve any of the information that would match this request. We do not capture the “protocol type in the same format described above, nor are we able to provide the “Subject matter” in question 1 and the “Third-party or co-defendant involvement, if any” as requested in question 2. Specifically, these parts would require further examination to understand which parts we hold that fit the information asked for. We have located over 240 records that fall into scope of this request, and to review each one at a rate of approximately 10minutes for each would take around 40hrs respond.

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 with a reduced timeframe and a reduction in the information required. Example, we may hold whether a claim was/is Public liability/Employer liability, along with the total number of claims and status of any claims. However, 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.