



Date: 29/09/2025
Our ref: 01/FOI/25/015422/K

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/25/015422/K

I write in connection with your request for information dated 01/09/2025, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

*I am writing to enquire, *ahead of submitting a formal Freedom of Information request*, about the type of workforce fitness and health data your service can disclose.*

I understand that operational staff within the emergency services are required to meet certain physical fitness standards, and that these are monitored on a regular basis.

In particular, I am interested in whether your service records - and would be able to release in anonymised, aggregate form - information such as:

- 1. The number of staff who have failed required fitness tests (and, where available, the reasons recorded for failing).*
- 2. Summary statistics relating to workforce BMI (e.g. number of workers by BMI category)*

I want to stress that I am not seeking any personal or identifiable information. I am only interested in anonymised, statistical data, fully compliant with GDPR. I would be grateful if you could let me know whether this type of data is typically held and disclosable under FOI.

If it is not possible to provide the information requested in this form, I would be grateful if you could provide advice and assistance, in line with your obligations under Section 16 of the Freedom of Information Act, as to how I might refine my request to enable future disclosure.

Result of Searches

Following receipt of your request searches were conducted within Greater Manchester Police (GMP) to locate information relevant to your request.

GMP does not keep a central record of failed fitness tests. GMP does record the BMI of officers in each individual officer's occupational health record. However, this is not held in an easily retrievable format. To provide the data requested would involve a manual search of the occupational health records of every officer.

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.