



Date: 19/11/2025
Our ref: 01/FOI/25/015711/Q

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/25/015711/Q

I write in connection with your request for information dated 22/10/2025, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

Thank you for your recent clarification, I appreciate your taking the time to explain this.

I would like to offer a further clarification to ensure we are aligned on the scope and intent of my original request, dated 7 July 2025.

In the original request, I was referring to closure in terms of public access. This is evidenced by:

- Part 1 of the request defining a police station as one that is “currently operational and can be accessed by the public”;*
- The request in Part 2 for details about the front desk status of each closed station; and*
- The inclusion of a question about whether the station had been sold — implying that closure did not necessarily mean full decommissioning.*

Taken together, the request is framed around public-facing functions, not solely building disposal. Therefore, any station where the enquiry counter was closed and the public could no longer access the premises falls within the scope of the request.

This interpretation is also supported by the Home Office definition of a police station, which specifies that a police station is a building open to the public — i.e., one with an enquiry counter.

Furthermore, in addition to FOI responses FOI/24/013381/L and FOI/24/013406/D, I would also point to FOI/23/002175/D, in which GMP again confirmed that 10 police stations had closed since 2011, consistent with the interpretation that “closure” refers to cessation of public access, regardless of later operational use.

Accordingly, I would be grateful if you could now provide the following information, as originally requested:

- A full list of the police stations that ceased to be accessible to the public (i.e., where enquiry counters closed), including the 10 stations listed in the previously mentioned FOI requests;*
- The month and year of closure to the public for each;*
- Their exact locations.*

I trust this clarifies the scope of the request and removes any ambiguity, and I look forward to receiving the outstanding information.

Result of Searches

Following receipt of your request searches were conducted within Greater Manchester Police to locate information relevant to your request. I can confirm that some of the information you have requested is held by Greater Manchester Police. However, I am not obliged to supply all the information you have requested as exemptions apply.

When refusing to provide such information because an exemption applies, Section 17(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires GMP, to provide you - the applicant - with a notice which: (a) states that fact, (b) specifies the exemption in question and (c) states (if that would not otherwise be apparent) why the exemption applies.

The requested information is exempt under **Section 21 – Information accessible to applicant by other means.**

The list of police stations that have closed since 2008 was provided in response to your previous request. The dates of their closures are not held by Greater Manchester Police.