

Date: 15/10/2025
Our ref: 01/FOI/25/015473/V

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/25/015473/V

I write in connection with your request for information dated 10/09/2025, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

For each of the calendar years 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, and 2024, please provide:

- 1. The total number of roadside drug tests conducted.***
- 2. Of those roadside tests, how many returned a positive result for cannabis.***
- 3. Of those roadside tests, how many returned a positive result for cocaine.***
- 4. The total number of individuals screened at the police station (following arrest/attendance) for drug use.***
- 5. Of those station-based screenings, how many tested positive for each of the following substances:***
 - o Ecstasy (MDMA)***
 - o Ketamine***
 - o LSD***
 - o Heroin***

If possible, I would appreciate the data being provided in an electronic, tabular format (such as CSV or Excel) to assist with analysis. Please reply via email.

If some of the information is not held, or only held for certain years, please provide what is available and specify any limitations.

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 be unable to respond to question 5 of this request without carrying out a manual review on all the positive tests recorded that are screened in the police station. We do not collate the information

that is requested in any other way to be able to obtain this part of your enquiry. There have been over 7000 results below, and even if we reduced this request back to 1 year's worth of data it would still take over 18hrs to provide a response.

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.

In this instance, for question 5, Greater Manchester Police will be unable to provide advice for you to reduce the request in order for the force to keep this within the fees limit in accordance with Section 16(1), the duty to provide advice and assistance, of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Although excess costs remove GMP's obligations under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, as a gesture of goodwill I have supplied some information relative to your request that was retrieved before it was realised that the fees limit would be exceed (see below information). I hope that this is of use to you, but it does not affect our legal right to rely on the fee's regulations for the remainder of your request.

Questions 1-3.

See below table.

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Total Tests	846	2035	2447	1519	1349	3481	3194
Positive	388	968	1324	748	678	1692	1578
Negative	458	1067	1123	771	671	1789	1616
Positive Cannabis	232	541	699	399	418	1076	952
Positive Cocaine	87	218	357	202	145	342	375
Positive Both	69	209	268	147	115	274	251
Negative Both	458	1067	1123	771	671	1789	1616

Question 4.

From the above table, those that tested "positive" would then be screen at the police stations.

Positive	388	968	1324	748	678	1692	1578
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Question 5.

See exemption above.