

Date: 09/09/2025
Our ref: 01/FOI/25/015328/N

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/25/015328/N

I write in connection with your request for information dated 12/08/2025, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

I am writing to make a request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Please can you provide the following information in csv or excel format:

1 - How many people have been arrested by police at or in connection to pro-Palestine protests since the October 7 Attacks in 2023? Please provide the number of people arrested broken down by age.

2 - What offences were these people arrested for? Please include the breakdown of the number of people arrested for each type of offence (e.g. supporting a proscribed organisation, assault on officer, public order offence).

3 - How many people were detained in custody following these arrests? Please provide the breakdown of the number detentions in custody for each type of offence.

4 - How many people were charged with the offence they were arrested for? Please provide the breakdown of the number of people charged for each type of offence/charge.

As under Section 16 of the Act, please advise on how I can amend my FOI if you cannot provide the requested information.

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.

The information you have asked for cannot be provided without carrying out a manual review of all the arrests since October 7th 2023 to understand which arrests are in relation to this FOI. Our system does not record if an arrest was carried out at an event or if an arrest was in connection to something, that can be easily searched for. For this reason, each arrest would need to be checked to see if the MO mentions where and why the arrests took place. Some investigations may keep an individual track of some arrests; however, this would not account for any separate arrests carried out that are linked to pro-Palestine protests as some arrests may have taken place days after any protests have ended. For these reasons, over 80,000 arrests would need checking and so this FOI cannot be provided.

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 request arrests data under a specific arrestable offence that you require the information. With any request that requires a manual review there is always a chance of a request being refused under S12 due to the enormity of work that is usually needed to provide the data, therefore 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.