



Date: 22/09/2025
Our ref: 01/FOI/25/015405/J

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/25/015405/J

I write in connection with your request for information dated 26/08/2025, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

I am writing under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request the following information:

1. *The number of arrests recorded by your force in which the individual was later determined to have been falsely arrested, either through internal review, disciplinary processes, or external legal rulings.*
2. *If available, a yearly breakdown of such incidents for the last five years (2021-2025).*
3. *Any available data on compensation claims paid or upheld due to false arrest during the same period.*

If the information cannot be provided for the full five-year period, please provide it for as many years as possible within the cost limits of the Act.

Result of Searches

Following receipt of your request searches were conducted within Greater Manchester Police (GMP) to locate information relevant to your request. I can confirm that the information you have requested is held by GMP.

However, GMP does not hold the information that you have requested in an easily retrievable format. To provide the data requested would involve a manual search of all arrest records and all legal claims to determine if the record is relevant to your request.

A search of our custody and legal records shows that to answer questions 1 and 2 would require 275,800 arrest records to be manually reviewed. At a very conservative estimate of 5 minutes to locate, retrieve and review each file it would take approximately 23,000 hours to

ascertain the data required. A further manual review of legal claims records would also be required to answer question 3. For 2024/25 alone this would be 442 records. It would extend into the thousands for the entire timeframe of your request.

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.