



Date: 24/09/2025  
Our ref: 01/FOI/25/015408/M

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/25/015408/M**

I write in connection with your request for information dated 27/08/2025, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

*Thank you for the vital work that you and your colleagues do in helping to keep communities across the United Kingdom safe.*

*There has been significant public discussion in recent years, often in the media and political debate, about the relationship between immigration and crime. Much of this debate has been speculative, and I would like to request factual information to help provide clarity.*

*Specifically, I am seeking recorded data held by your force that may show whether there is any correlation between immigration trends and crime rates in your area. My aim is to understand this issue based solely on evidence, without interpretation or commentary.*

*To that end, Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I would like to request the following information:*

1. *For the past 10 years (2015–2025), please provide annual recorded crime statistics for your force area, broken down by:*
  - a. *Type of crime (e.g., violent crime, property crime, sexual offences, drug offences, etc.).*
  - b. *Offender nationality where recorded.*
  - c. *Offender religion where recorded.*
  - d. *If religion or nationality are not recorded – why?*
2. *If available, please provide any reports, statistical datasets, or analysis your force holds regarding:*

- e. *The number of arrests or convictions of individuals identified as being in the UK without legal immigration status ("illegal immigrants").*
  - f. *Trends in offender nationality or religion over the past 10 years.*
  - g. *Any correlations or patterns your force has documented between immigration status, religion, and crime rates.*
3. *If exact data is not available, please provide any summary reports, briefings, or prepared documents held by the force on these topics.*

*I understand that certain information may be exempt under the FOI Act (for example, where disclosure would identify individuals). In such cases, I request that you provide the data in anonymised or aggregated form.*

*If my request is likely to exceed the cost/time limit, please let me know how I might refine or narrow it.*

*Thank you for your assistance, and thank you especially for your hard work in keeping the UK safe,*

### **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 in question 2 would involve a manual search of all crime records to see if the immigration status of the suspect is recorded, as this is not a searchable field on our crime recording system.

A search of crime records shows that for 2015 alone there are over 233,000 crime records that would have to be manually reviewed. At a very conservative estimate of 5 minutes to locate, retrieve and review each file it would take over 19,000 hours to ascertain the data required, and that would only be for one year, not the 10 years requested.

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](mailto:freedomofinformation@gmp.police.uk).