

Date: 21st January 2026
Our ref: FOI/25/016038/K

I write in connection with your request for information dated 18/12/2025, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, please could you provide the following information for the most recent 12-month period for which data is available.

Primary request:

- 1. The number of occasions on which police officers were recorded as exceeding the 48-hour average weekly working time limit set out in the Working Time Regulations 1998.***
- 2. For the same period, the number of occasions where any management action, guidance, or intervention was recorded in response to such exceedances (for example enforced rest days, rescheduling of duties, or other steps taken to ensure compliance).***

Secondary information (where readily available):

- 3. Where recorded and readily retrievable, the number of occasions during the same period where police officers were recorded as breaching minimum daily or weekly rest requirements under the Working Time Regulations.***
- 4. Where recorded and readily retrievable, the number of occasions where management action, guidance, or other intervention was taken in response to such rest-period breaches.***
- 5. A brief description of how compliance with the Working Time Regulations is recorded and monitored within the force, including the system(s) or process(es) used (for example duty management systems, HR systems, or other oversight arrangements).***

If information is held in the form of management reports, dashboards, or system extracts, please provide it in that form.

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 some of 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.

A report has been run using GMPs duty management system, this search returned 67,378 "WTR exemptions" in the past 12 months. We cannot determine if the exemptions relate to the number of occasions where a police officer were recorded as breaching minimum daily or weekly rest requirements under the Working Time Regulations, exceeding the 48 hour average weekly working time limit or if it includes both. To confirm if an exemption record relates to officers exceeding the 48 hour average weekly working limit would require a manual review of each record. At a very conservative estimate of 5 minutes per record would take this request to in excess of 5,614.8 hours to ascertain the data required.

If one part of the request engages a Section 12 response, the whole request will engage a Section 12 response. The reason being is locating, retrieving and extracting any further information would only add to the already exceeded time obligations and so no other searches have been completed at this stage.

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.

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

Should you wish to refine and resubmit your request in line with the advice above please respond to freedomofinformation@gmp.police.uk