



Date: 06/08/2026
Our ref: 01/FOI/26/017101/Z

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/26/017101/Z

I write in connection with your request for information dated 22/06/2026, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

I am writing to request information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 regarding the policing of the Parklife Festival 2026.

For the avoidance of doubt, I am not seeking information relating to operational tactics, deployment numbers, officer locations, command structures, intelligence, security measures, vulnerabilities, policing plans or any information that could reasonably be expected to prejudice law enforcement activities. This request is limited to retrospective statistical, financial and accountability information.

1. Crime, Arrest and Incident Data

Please provide:

a) The total number of crimes recorded by Greater Manchester Police which were associated with Parklife 2026.

b) Where recorded, a breakdown of those offences between:

** Offences occurring within the festival site;*

** Offences occurring outside the festival site but linked to the event, including surrounding residential areas, transport hubs and routes used by attendees.*

c) A breakdown of offences by crime category.

d) The total number of arrests associated with Parklife 2026.

e) The total number of incidents, calls for service, recorded occurrences or CAD logs linked to Parklife 2026.

2. Cost of Policing

Please provide:

a) The total cost incurred by Greater Manchester Police in policing Parklife 2026.

b) The amount recovered from, invoiced to, or paid by the event organisers.

c) The amount funded from Greater Manchester Police budgets or other public resources.

d) Details of any additional public funding, grants, mutual aid funding or contributions from other public bodies used in connection with the policing operation.

e) Copies of any agreements, policies, charging schedules, memoranda of understanding, invoices or other recorded information governing the recovery of policing costs from the event organisers.

f) Copies of any invoices issued by Greater Manchester Police to:

** Parklife Festival Limited;*

** SJM Concerts;*

** Any associated promoter, operator or event management company; or*

** Any other entity responsible for funding policing services in connection with Parklife 2026.*

Where personal data, bank details or commercially sensitive information appear within invoices, I am content for such information to be redacted. However, I request disclosure of the invoice values, dates, descriptions of services, amounts billed, amounts recovered and any outstanding balances.

3. Public Funding and Cost Recovery

Please provide any recorded information showing:

** The methodology used to determine the amount charged to the event organisers;*

** The rationale for any policing costs not recovered from the organisers;*

** Any discussions concerning whether additional costs should be recovered from the organisers; and*

** Any assessment of the financial impact of Parklife 2026 upon Greater Manchester Police.*

4. Post-Event Review and Value for Money

Please provide copies of any:

** Post-event reviews;*

** Lessons-learned reports;*

** Debrief documents;*

** Financial reviews;*

** Impact assessments;*

- * Business cases;
- * Chief Officer briefing papers; or
- * Reports submitted to senior management

which consider:

- * The effectiveness of the policing operation;
- * The impact of the event upon wider policing resources;
- * The financial impact of the event;
- * Cost recovery arrangements;
- * Demand placed upon public services; or
- * Whether the event represented value for money from a policing perspective.

If no such assessment has been undertaken, please confirm this.

5. Public Interest

This request concerns a large commercial event attended by tens of thousands of people and requiring a substantial policing operation funded, at least in part, through public resources.

The requested information relates to accountability for public expenditure, the recovery of costs from private commercial organisers and the impact of the event upon policing demand.

The information requested is retrospective and aggregate in nature. I am not seeking information concerning future operations, tactical deployments, officer numbers at specific locations, intelligence, vulnerabilities or operational methodologies.

Police forces across England and Wales routinely disclose aggregate crime statistics, arrest figures, policing costs and cost-recovery information relating to major events, football matches, public demonstrations and other large gatherings. Disclosure of the information requested would therefore be consistent with established transparency and accountability principles.

If Greater Manchester Police considers that any exemption applies, please:

- * Identify the specific exemption relied upon;
- * Explain precisely how disclosure of the requested information would result in the prejudice claimed;
- * Consider partial disclosure where appropriate;
- * Explain whether the information could be disclosed in redacted form; and
- * Provide details of any public interest balancing exercise undertaken.

6. Advice and Assistance

If any part of this request is considered likely to exceed the appropriate cost limit under Section 12 FOIA, please:

- * Identify the specific element of the request causing concern;
 - * Provide a reasonable estimate of the burden involved;
 - * Provide advice and assistance under Section 16 FOIA to enable refinement of the request;
- and

** Disclose all information capable of being provided within the limit rather than refusing the request in its entirety.*

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 1E would involve listening to the recordings of all calls received around the dates of the Parklife festival to see if they are relevant to your request.

A search of our call handling records shows that there were 145,115 calls to 999 or 101 that would have to be manually reviewed. 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. 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.

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. For the force to keep this within the fees limit, the information that you are requesting will need to be limited to incident and/or crime data. Not every call results in an incident being created, and some incidents receive several calls. There is no way to ascertain how many calls a particular event attracted without having to listen to the call recordings. 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.