



Date: 18/08/2026
Our ref: 01/FOI/26/017319/P

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/26/017319/P

I write in connection with your request for information dated 28/07/2026, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, please provide the following information relating to prayer rooms, quiet rooms used for religious observance, and the marking of religious festivals across the force's premises.

For the purposes of this request, "staff time" includes time spent by police officers, police staff, contractors or other personnel where this is recorded by the force.

1. Expenditure on prayer rooms

For each of the following financial years:

- 2023/24
- 2024/25
- 2025/26
- 2026/27 to date, if available

Please state the total recorded expenditure incurred in establishing, operating and maintaining prayer rooms or multi-faith rooms across the force.

Where possible, please distinguish between one-off establishment costs and ongoing running costs.

2. Staff time relating to prayer rooms

For each of the financial years listed above, please state the total recorded staff time devoted to maintaining, administering, coordinating or managing prayer rooms or multi-faith rooms.

Please provide the information in hours or working days, according to the format in which it is held.

For the most recent complete financial year, please also state separately the total recorded staff time spent specifically administering, coordinating or managing access to prayer rooms.

If the force does not hold a calculated total, please provide any recorded estimate, staffing allocation, workload assessment or equivalent recorded information that is held.

3. Religious festivals and holy days

For each of the following financial years:

- 2023/24
- 2024/25
- 2025/26
- 2026/27 to date, if available

Please state the total expenditure incurred by the force in marking, celebrating or supporting religious festivals, holy days or faith-related events.

Where possible, please provide a breakdown by the particular festival or faith with which the expenditure was associated.

Please exclude ordinary staff salaries unless additional expenditure, overtime or another separately recorded cost was incurred.

4. Staff time relating to religious festivals

For each of the financial years listed above, please state the total recorded staff time allocated to organising, administering, coordinating, promoting or attending religious festivals, holy days or associated events in an official capacity.

Please provide the information in hours or working days, according to the format in which it is held.

Where possible, please provide a breakdown by the particular festival or faith concerned.

If no total is held, please provide any recorded staffing allocation, estimate or equivalent recorded measure that is held.

5. Access to prayer rooms

For each prayer room or multi-faith room currently operated by the force, please state:

- a. the premises or police facility at which it is located;*
- b. whether it is available to both male and female users;*
- c. whether male and female users may use it at the same time;*
- d. whether any separate rooms, segregated areas or separately allocated sessions are provided;*
- e. the days or times allocated to particular groups, where applicable;*
- f. whether the room is designated as a multi-faith facility or for the use of a particular religion; and*
- g. where segregated facilities or sessions are provided, whether this affects the room's availability for use by people of other faiths or no faith.*

Please provide copies of any current policies, guidance or booking rules governing access to and use of these facilities.

Format and clarification

Please provide the information electronically.

I am seeking recorded information held by the force. I am not asking the force to create new information or undertake fresh calculations where these cannot be produced through a straightforward extraction from existing records.

If any part of this request would exceed the appropriate cost limit, please provide the remaining information and, pursuant to your duty under section 16 of the Freedom of Information Act, advise how the request could be refined while retaining as much of the requested information as possible.

Where no expenditure or staff time was recorded for a particular year or category, please respond with "£0", "zero hours" or "not held", as appropriate.

Result of Searches

Information relating to question 4 of your request is not held in an easily retrievable format, if it is indeed held at all. There is no centrally held record of such instances and to provide such data would require each division, sub-division and possibly each individual officer to undertake necessary searches to establish if this has happened and if so on how many occasions.

To comply with the whole of your request the process would take over 18 hours' work and therefore exceeds the appropriate limit of £450.00, 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. The only advice that GMP can give is that you specify a particular divisional area within GMP to make your request more manageable within the fees limit of the act, although this still may not be possible for even one divisional area.

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

—