

Date: 07/01/2026
Our ref: 01/FOI/26/016098/R

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/26/016098/R

I write in connection with your request for information dated 05/01/2026, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

***The number of individuals arrested by your force during 1 January 2025 to 31 December 2025 who were recorded as having previously been released early from custody under early-release or sentence reduction schemes.
Aggregated figures only. No personal data requested.***

Result of Searches

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

However, GMP does not hold the information that you have requested in an easily retrievable format.

GMP do not hold any data for this request in a manner that allows for easy extraction. We do not hold information relating to why an individual has been released in a central location as this will only be held on their arrest record. To obtain the number of early releases under the “early-release or sentence reduction schemes” would require a manual review of each arrests record to see the reason for release. For the last 12 months they have been over 70,000 arrests and to manually check each one would exceed the 18hrs permitted to do so.

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.

In this instance, due to the number of reviews over any time frame, Greater Manchester Police will be unable to provide advice for you to reduce the request in order for the force to keep this within the fees limit in accordance with Section 16(1), the duty to provide advice and assistance, of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.