



Date: 13/08/2026
Our ref: 01/FOI/26/017269/W

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/26/017269/W

I write in connection with your request for information dated 20/07/2026, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

I am seeking anonymous organisational information about the operation and workforce use of CCRU, including whether it has been used for officers under investigation, on restricted duties or returning from long-term sickness absence.

The request does not seek information about any named officer. The figures and policies will assist understanding of the unit's organisational role, its placement practices and the safeguards or rehabilitation arrangements applying to temporary officers.

Date Range: 1 January 2020 to 30 June 2026

This request concerns the Civil Contingencies and Resilience Unit (CCRU), including placements at GMP Force Headquarters. Please provide the following recorded information for each calendar year from 1 January 2020 to 30 June 2026.

1. Total placements

Please provide the total number of police officers who were assigned, attached, seconded, temporarily placed or redeployed into CCRU during each year.

2. Placements from outside Specialist Operations

Please provide:

a. the number whose substantive department immediately before placement was outside Specialist Operations; and b. where recorded, a breakdown by previous command or department, including local policing, CID, Economic Crime, Serious and Organised Crime and other GMP departments.

REQUEST 2:

What would you like to know?: 3. Recorded reason for placement

For officers placed into CCRU from outside Specialist Operations, please provide anonymous figures according to the recorded reason for placement, including:

a. misconduct or Professional Standards investigation; b. criminal investigation; c. restrictions on duties; d. suspension or placement instead of suspension; e. awaiting a misconduct meeting or hearing; f. recuperative duties or return from long-term sickness absence; g. disability or reasonable-adjustment placement; h. Occupational Health or welfare recommendation; i. capability or performance process; j. temporary operational redeployment; k. other recorded reason; and l. no recorded reason.

I am requesting the categories actually recorded by GMP. I am not asking GMP to create a new assessment of the reason for an individual placement. Where GMP uses different descriptions, please provide those descriptions and the corresponding figures.

4. Duration

Please provide the number of outside-Specialist-Operations placements lasting:

*a. less than one month;
b. one to three months;
c. three to six months;
d. six to twelve months; and
e. more than twelve months.*

5. Outcome following placement

Where recorded, please provide the number whose outcome was:

*a. return to substantive role;
b. transfer to another policing role;
c. permanent CCRU or Specialist Operations placement; d. continued restricted or recuperative duties; e. resignation or retirement; f. dismissal following misconduct proceedings; g. medical retirement; h. another outcome; or i. outcome not recorded.*

6. Rank

Please provide the annual placement figures divided into:

a. Police Constable or Detective Constable; b. Sergeant or Detective Sergeant; c. Inspector or Detective Inspector; and d. Chief Inspector or above.

7. Policies, role profiles and placement guidance

Please provide copies of any current or historic recorded:

a. CCRU role profile or terms of reference; b. organisational chart; c. placement criteria; d. guidance concerning restricted or recuperative officers; e. list or description of suitable duties; f. authorisation or governance process; g. review arrangements for temporary placements; and h. guidance concerning progression back to substantive policing duties.

REQUEST 3:

What would you like to know?: 8. Use of CCRU for officers experiencing employment difficulties

Please confirm whether GMP holds any policy, guidance, briefing, presentation, meeting record or management instruction stating or indicating that CCRU may be used to accommodate officers who:

*a. are under investigation;
b. are subject to duty restrictions;
c. cannot remain in their substantive unit; d. are returning from long-term sickness absence; e. require recuperative duties; or f. require temporary placement while misconduct or employment processes remain unresolved.*

Where such recorded information is held, please provide copies subject to lawful redaction.

9. Authorisation

Please identify the department, role or senior management position responsible for authorising and reviewing temporary CCRU placements.

I do not require the names of individual officers.

10. Recorded concerns

Where centrally recorded and retrievable, please provide anonymous totals of complaints, grievances or concerns raised by temporarily placed CCRU officers concerning:

a. stigma associated with the placement; b. isolation or exclusion from ordinary policing; c. lack of meaningful duties; d. reasonable adjustments; e. absence of a return-to-substantive-role plan; or f. de-skilling and career development.

Please provide any resulting anonymous organisational report or recommendation.

Privacy and format

I do not seek names, collar numbers, medical information, specific allegations or information identifying individual officers.

Where low figures create an identification risk, please aggregate across years, combine categories or use a suppression marker such as "fewer than five", rather than refusing the request in full.

Where information is not held in the precise form requested, please identify:

the categories GMP does hold; the closest available recorded information; and which information is not recorded.

If the complete request would exceed the appropriate cost limit, please prioritise:

questions 1 to 3; question 7; question 8; and question 9.

Please then provide advice and assistance about refining the remaining questions.

Please provide figures in an electronic spreadsheet and documents in editable Word or searchable PDF format. Due to autism and dyslexia, I require written communication and documents capable of being displayed with a light-blue background.

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 requests 2 and 3 would involve a manual search of each individual officer's return to work documents, as there is no central archive of this information.

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 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.