

Date: 14/07/2026
Our ref: 01/FOI/26/017183/R

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/26/017183/R

I write in connection with your request for information dated 03/07/2026, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I request the following information relating to the use of psychics or similar practitioners by your force during the period from 1 January 2021 to the date this request is processed (or the most recent five-year period for which records are available).

For the purposes of this request, "psychic" includes any individual or organisation engaged, consulted, commissioned, contracted, or otherwise utilised in a professional capacity who was described as, or provided services as, a:

- * ***Medium***
- * ***Remote Viewer***
- * ***Remote Perceiver***
- * ***Clairvoyant***
- * ***Intuitive***
- * ***Mystic***
- * ***Channeler***
- * ***Oracle***
- * ***Seer***
- * ***Fortune Teller***

Please provide:

A.

- * ***The number of occasions on which the force utilised, consulted, engaged, commissioned, contracted, or otherwise received assistance from any person fitting the above descriptions.***
- * ***A yearly breakdown of these occasions.***
- * ***For each occasion, where recorded:***

- o The practitioner type or how the individual was described.*
- o Whether the engagement related to a missing person investigation, homicide investigation, or other type of inquiry.*
- o Whether the practitioner was paid or acted voluntarily.*
- * The total amount paid by the force in relation to such services during the period, broken down by year where possible.*
- * Copies of any force policies, guidance, standard operating procedures, or internal documents concerning the use of psychics or similar practitioners in investigations.*

B

** How many times has the force received information, intelligence, correspondence, telephone calls or other communications from individuals identifying themselves as psychics, mediums, clairvoyants, remote viewers or similar practitioners in connection with a criminal investigation, missing person enquiry or unidentified remains investigation during the last five years?"*

** Where feasible and/or appropriate to data protection, please provide the names of persons or companies who have made approaches.
If any part of this request exceeds the cost limit, please provide any information that can be supplied within the limit and advise how the request may be refined.
If the information is held under a different description than those listed above, please include any recorded instances that your force considers to fall within the spirit of this request.*

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 the information requested is held by GMP.

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

GMP would be unable to comply with this FOI in full without carrying out a substantial review across thousands of records for part B of this request. The only way to determine whether information has been provided by these individuals would be to conduct a keyword search on the list provided below.

- * Medium*
- * Remote Viewer*
- * Remote Perceiver*
- * Clairvoyant*
- * Intuitive*
- * Mystic*
- * Channeler*
- * Oracle*
- * Seer*
- * Fortune Teller*

This information is not stored in our systems in a way that allows for easy extraction, and the review would be the only way to ascertain what data we hold. We have conducted a key word search on each of the above between 01/07/2021 and 30/06/2026 and identified over 29,000 results combined. This would mean providing the required information cannot be achievable in under 18hrs.

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.

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. In order for the force to attempt to keep this within the fees limit, the information you are requesting will need revising with a reduced time frame, fewer keywords or re-phrased, as for example the term medium has multiple meanings and is regularly used in policing to document risk level and therefore will generate a large number of results that will require reviewing. Alternatively, the removal of part B may also assist. However, with any request that requires a manual review there is always a chance of a request being refused under S12 due to the enormity of work that is usually needed to provide the data, therefore 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.