

Date: 20/07/2026
Our ref: 01/FOI/26/017213/G

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/26/017213/G

I write in connection with your request for information dated 09/07/2026, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

- 1. The estimated number of police hours in your police force saved due to the changes to the Home Office Counting Rules that were implemented in May 2023.***

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.

The Home Office Counting Rules, made significant changes to recording rules in 2023, this includes the de-notification of S5 Public Order Act and ceasing the requirement to record behavioural crime as an "as well as" crime. This means that where we previously may have recorded an assault and a stalking, we now only record a stalking.

To determine the number of hours this has saved, we would have to review every crime of stalking, harassment and controlling or coercive behaviour to see if it meets the criteria, under the old rules, of requiring another crime to be recorded.

This is not information we can source from any report. There are thousands of these crime types recorded and therefore it is not feasible for these records to be checked. Whilst we know that recorded crime dropped from 2023, a review would be the only way to attempt to understand how many hours this has saved GMP.

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 to request information such as, the percentage decrease in recorded crime from 2024 to 2025 compared to the previous year. 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.