

Date: 10/06/2026
Our ref: 01/FOI/26/016878/L

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/26/016878/L

I write in connection with your request for information dated 09/05/2026, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

****Refined Request Following IR 01/INT/26/000315/A & FOI 01/FOI/26/016411/G***

Your review confirms that Greater Manchester Police does not hold centrally collated VRS expenditure across multiple departments. I therefore now request only the following two high level financial figures, both of which fall well within the statutory cost limit and do not require any manual review of individual timesheets, staff hours, or departmental records:

1. The total amount of money GMP allocates or budgets for PACE related vehicle recovery and storage.

This refers simply to the annual budget or financial provision made by GMP for vehicle recovery and storage under PACE powers. This is a standard financial stewardship figure that must exist within GMP's financial management framework.

2. Confirmation of whether GMP generates any income from its vehicle recovery scheme, including statutory fees, auction proceeds, or any other receipts.

This is a yes/no question, with optional high level totals if held. It does not require any manual review of individual records and cannot reasonably engage Section 12.

Why these questions fall well within the cost limit

Both questions relate to aggregated financial information, not operational detail. They do not require:

- ***identification of individual staff***
- ***retrieval of timesheets***
- ***review of multiple departments***
- ***extraction of granular data***

These are core financial management figures that any police force must maintain under:

- ***the Local Government Act 1999 (Best Value Duty)***

- ***the Financial Management Code***
- ***standard audit and accounting requirements for public bodies***

Every other police force approached has been able to provide this information, with the exception of four forces whose responses are still pending. None have claimed that answering these two basic financial questions would exceed the Section 12 cost limit.

Section 12 and Section 16

As these two questions require only high level financial totals or confirmation of income, there is no lawful basis to refuse them under Section 12.

I also note that your internal review did not provide meaningful Section 16 advice tailored to the nature of the information requested. This refined request now removes any possible ambiguity and should be answerable well within the statutory limit.

Request

Please treat the two questions above as a new FOIA 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 some of the information requested is held by GMP.

1. No information held
2. Yes. (This does not consider staffing hours / overtime /capital and revenue costs associated with building costs to accommodate the VRS scheme.)