

Date: 11/06/2026
Our ref: 01/FOI/26/016990/K

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/26/016990/K

I write in connection with your request for information dated 03/06/2026, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

Clarification

I am seeking information on hard/enforced stops which is the language used by the Mayor in this article: <https://www.london.gov.uk/who-we-are/what-london-assembly-does/questions-mayor/find-an-answer/hard-stop-tactics>.

"An enforced stop - or a 'hard stop' as it is often referred to as the public" is defined as when a vehicle is brought to a stop by police, without prior warning or by positioning of police vehicles to block a car from moving.

Initial request FOI/25/015317/K (closed due to no response)

I submit this request for specific information regarding the stop and search data in the Greater Manchester Police area of responsibility. The information being sought relates to the datasets gathered by various public safety bodies in your area. This information is sought under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA 2000).

We are requesting the following data for the year 2024:

- 1. How many "hard stops"/"enforced stops" took place in *area*?***
- 2. What was the police outcome of each "hard stop"/"enforced stop" (e.g. arrest, warning, no further action)?***
- 3. In addition to data for question 1, please provide data sorted by the legal power used, police outcome, offence (if applicable), as well as the gender, age and ethnicity of the person stopped.***

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 respond to this FOI without carrying out a manual review across over 6,000 records. We have a field which identified vehicle stops, vehicle and person stops. This has been used to filter to vehicle and vehicle, and person stops, where the stop occurred from June 2024 to the end of 2024 there are approx 6k records that would need a manual review to identify if police vehicles were used to stop a car. Unfortunately, there is no other workaround to locate and extract the data for this request. As such, this would exceed 18hrs to respond.

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 substantially reduced time frame.

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.