

Date: 8th January 2026
Our ref: FOI/25/016052/I

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: FOI/25/016052/I

I write in connection with your request for information dated 23/12/2025, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

Q1 - I would like to know how many Interpreter and Translation requests you have received in August 2025, broken down into the totals for interpreting and translations

Q2 - The total requests you received in September 2025, all requests, to include interpreting and translations

Q3 - The total spend for interpreting and translations for 2024-2025 to October 2025

Result of Searches

Following receipt of your request searches were conducted within Greater Manchester Police (GMP) to locate the requested information. I can confirm the information requested is held by GMP. However, I am not obliged to provide all the information requested as exemption applies to question 3.

When refusing to provide such information because an exemption applies, Section 17(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires GMP, to provide you - the applicant - with a notice which: (a) states that fact, (b) specifies the exemption in question and (c) states (if that would not otherwise be apparent) why the exemption applies.

The exemption which applies to question 3 is:

Section 43(2) – Commercial Interests

Section 43(2) is a prejudice based and qualified exemption and as such, subject to a harm and public interest test.

Harm

To disclose the information asked for within this request may prejudice the Force's future commercial interests and tender process. Disclosure will likely leave GMP in a position where it is not able to negotiate the best value for money in the future and may also prejudice the commercial interests of those providing services to GMP, as external agencies may set certain prices depending on a variety of factors. If the price provided to GMP is different to costs set to other agencies, this could jeopardise the interests of these providers. This could decrease competition for our business, and costs could increase as a result.

Factors favouring disclosure

The factors considered in favouring the disclosure of the information requested are as follows:

Disclosure would provide better understanding, accountability and justification as to how GMP spends public funds.

Factors Favouring Non-Disclosure

Factors against the disclosure of information are:

Disclosure of expenditure could damage any future tender processes, as contractors would be aware of how much money GMP pay for a particular service. Therefore, this could give an unfair advantage to other companies applying for such contracts with GMP. To disclose such information would leave GMP in a vulnerable position in respect of a civil action being brought against GMP by the contractor.

If the information was to be disclosed it would likely harm GMP's economical use of public funds for such said contracts, as the cost could be used as a 'benchmark' to other companies who apply for future contracts. This could prevent GMP from getting the best value for money. In light of this to disclose the requested expenditure information would prejudice the interests of GMP in regard to future contracts.

Balancing test

When balancing the public interest Greater Manchester Police has to consider whether the information should be released into the public domain. The most persuasive reason for disclosing the information would be that there would be a better public understanding of how GMP spends public funds. This needs to be weighed against the strongest reason for non-disclosure, which, in this case is damage that may be caused to GMP & service providers in relation to future contracts. In this instance, the case for disclosure is not made out.

Response

Month	Translation	Interpreting
August 2025	10	413
September 2025	9	382