

Date: 24th February 2026
Our ref: FOI/26/016351/L

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: FOI/26/016351/L

I write in connection with your request for information dated 10/02/2026, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

I am writing to make a request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Please could you provide the following information relating to your organisation's energy usage:

- 1. Copies of electricity and gas bills (or a summary equivalent) for the most recent 12-month period available.*
- 2. Total annual electricity consumption (kWh) for the same period.*
- 3. Total annual gas consumption (kWh) for the same period.*
- 4. Total annual cost (£) for electricity and gas, separately if available.*
- 5. The name of your current energy supplier(s).*
- 6. The contract end date(s) for electricity and gas supply.*

If providing copies of bills is not possible, a summary of the above information in spreadsheet or PDF format would be sufficient.

I would prefer to receive the information electronically by email. If any part of this request exceeds the cost limit, please provide the information that can be supplied within the limit and advise what can be narrowed to proceed.

If you consider any of the information exempt, please specify the exemption relied upon and provide any information that can be disclosed.

I look forward to your response within the statutory 20 working days.

Result of Searches

Following receipt of your request searches were conducted within Greater Manchester Police (GMP) to locate information relevant to your request. I can confirm that the information you have requested is held by GMP. However, I am not obliged to supply you with all the information as an exemption applies to question 1 of your request.

The Freedom of Information Act is a piece of legislation designed to give the public access to information held by public authorities. It exists to make the decisions of those authorities transparent and to keep the populace better informed regarding matters which affect them.

A Public Authority is able to refuse requests which can divert resources away from more deserving requests and other public business, or threaten to undermine the credibility of the freedom of information system. It is recognised that dealing with unreasonable requests can place a strain on resources and get in the way of delivering mainstream services. This is particularly relevant at this time due to the ongoing demand on GMP's FOI unit which is currently experiencing high workloads.

When identifying potentially vexatious requests the indicators contained within the Information Commissioner's guidance on Section 14(1) should be considered. In this case we feel the following indicator applies specifically to question 1 of your request:

Burden on the Authority

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 14(1) of FOIA a request deemed as overly burdensome does not oblige GMP to comply with a request for information.

The ICO confirms within their guidance that they consider there to be a high threshold for refusing a request on such grounds if there is a viable case in line with the below recommendations:

- 1) The requester has asked for a substantial volume of information and
- 2) The authority has real concerns about potentially exempt information, which it will be able to substantiate if asked to do so by the ICO and
- 3) Any potentially exempt information cannot easily be isolated because it is scattered throughout the requested material.

As such question 1 of your request is being refused due to the amount of time required to review and prepare the information for disclosure, which would impose a grossly oppressive burden on the organisation.

To provide copies of the electricity and gas bills for the most recent 12 month period would involve manual redactions so they do not contain operationally sensitive, commercially sensitive or personal information which could identify directly or indirectly a living human. Therefore, Section 31 Law Enforcement, Section 40 Personal Information and Section 43 Commercial Interest will be engaged. A 12 month bill can be around 5,400 pages and redactions would be required on each page to remove any sensitive information. At an estimate of 5 minutes to review and redact each page it would take approximately 450 hours to prepare the documents for disclosure and provide a response to question 1.

For this reason, any further requests of this nature will be refused under Section 14(1) of the FOIA, which states that requests that are considered to be vexatious do not have to be complied with.

However, please see below the results for all the other questions.

Question 1 – Exempt, please see above.

Question 2 – 23,875,737 kWh.

Question 3 – 22,470,896 kWh.

Question 4

Electricity - £5,3519,120 including Climate Change levy but not VAT.

Gas – £1,233,923 including Climate Change Levy but not VAT.

Question 5 – EDF and Total Energies

Question 6 – April 2027.