

Date: 11/03/2026
Our ref: 01/FOI/26/016538/U

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/26/016538/U

I write in connection with your request for information dated 10/03/2026, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

*I am writing to request information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.
I would like to request data on reported sexual offences that occurred within hotels in your police force area. Specifically, I request information for the financial years 2021 - 2022, 2022 - 2023, 2023 - 2024, 2024 - 2025, 2025 - 2026:*

Please provide:

- 1. The total number of sexual offences (rape, sexual assault, sexual harassment) reported where the location of the offence is recorded at a hotel.*
- 2. If available, a breakdown by financial year and by hotel for the offences above.*
- 3. If available, a simple categorisation of whether the offender was a guest at the same accommodation or an external person.*

If any part of this request exceeds the appropriate cost limit, please advise on how it could be refined to fall within the limit.

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 of hundreds and potentially thousands of records due to how this data is recorded and stored. An initial search has been performed using the filtered offence of 'Rape' and 'Other Sexual offences', and then we added a keyword search in the MO for the word 'hotel'. This was done for 3 sperate years, 2023/24 and 2024/25. For both years, the results provided over 550 results that would have to be trawled through to accurately identify that a sexual offence took place in a hotel, as the appearance of the word does not directly imply this matches what is requested. In addition, this review would be needed to extract if

information held suggests whether the offender was a guest or visitor at the hotel. At a conservative rate of 5 minutes to review each one, this FOI would take in the region of 45hrs to complete.

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 much reduced timeframe, for example 1 years' worth of data. 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.