

Date: 06/05/2026
Our ref: 01/FOI/26/016799/N

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/26/016799/N

I write in connection with your request for information dated 30/04/2026, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

How many incidents has the force recorded involving so called 'auditors'* at police stations or buildings in the last five years?

Auditors refers to people who film police buildings and their interactions with officers - they may then post the footage online.

Please provide figures since the start of 2020, breaking down into annual figures by calendar year.

Please provide details of the incidents if possible.

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.

However, GMP does not hold the information that you have requested in an easily retrievable format.

For GMP to be able to provide a response to this request it will require a substantial manual review of all the recorded crimes that relate to this request. Because this information isn't stored in a searchable database, our only way to locate specific entries is by applying keyword parameters. A search for the terms 'Audit' and 'Auditor' identified 680 incidents created between January 2020 and December 2025. This search included the incident titles, descriptions, and contact comments. However, to understand how many of these are linked to your FOI would involve a manually review as previously stated. At a conservative rate of 5 minutes to review each one, this FOI would take in the region of 56hrs 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 reduced timeframe. 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.