

Date: 21/04/2026
Our ref: 01/FOI/26/016663/Y

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/26/016663/Y

I write in connection with your request for information dated 02/04/2026, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

***** REFINED REQUEST - 016588 *****

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 please provide the following information relating to UAV / drone capability within your force for the last 2 financial years? – present.

- 1. Total annual spend on UAV / drone equipment, services or training.***
- 2. A breakdown of spend where available by category:***
 - Drone hardware***
 - Drone training***
 - Drone Software / data platforms***
 - Drone Maintenance or servicing***
- 3. Names of suppliers used for:***
 - Drone hardware***
 - Drone training***
 - Drone software or data platforms***
- 4. The drone platforms currently in operational use (e.g. DJI, Parrot, etc).***
- 5. The number of officers trained as drone pilots within the force.***
- 6. Any current contracts or framework agreements relating to drone capability, including start and end dates where available.***
- 7. The role/title or department responsible for management of the UAV / drone programme within the force.***

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 confirm all the information requested without carrying out a manual review across historic spreadsheets to understand how much of the information we have recorded. Some information is not recorded in the annual breakdowns you have requested and so this information if retrieved would have to be calculated. Due to how the data is held this FOI would require a review to provide a response per category. Due to this this FOI would still take over 18hrs to locate and extract such information.

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 time frame of at least 1 year or less from 2025 only. However, 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.