

Date: 15th May 2026
Our ref: FOI/26/016664/Z

I write in connection with your request for information dated 03/04/2026, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

Please provide the following information for the period 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2025:

1. The total number of civil claims concluded by your organisation in each financial year.

2. The total amount paid in relation to these claims in each financial year, including:

- a) Damages / compensation payments***
- b) Claimant legal costs***
- c) Defence legal costs***

3. A breakdown of claim outcomes, where recorded, including:

- a) Claims settled prior to the issue of court proceedings***
- b) Claims settled after court proceedings were issued***
- c) Judgments against the organisation following a court decision***
- d) Claims discontinued or successfully defended***

4. Where available, a high-level breakdown of claims by the nature of the claim

If any exemptions are applied, please specify which exemptions have been relied upon and provide reasoning.

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

GMP do not record the date that a claim is concluded in a searchable field as case files can be closed after the date the claim is concluded. To provide the number of civil claims concluded in the requested time period would require a manual review of each case to determine the concluded date.

A further manual review would be required to determine the outcome of each case and provide a response to question 3.

From an initial search of our records, GMP have closed 5,065 claim files across all types in the last 5 financial years. At a minimum of 5 minutes per case would take this request to in excess of 422 hours to ascertain the data required.

If one part of the request engages a Section 12 response, the whole request will engage a Section 12 response. The reason being is locating, retrieving and extracting any further information would only add to the already exceeded time obligations and so no other searches have been completed at this stage.

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.

Greater Manchester Police 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 keep this within the fees limit, the information that you are requesting will need to be reduced. For example, a reduction in timeframe or questions asked. 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.