

Date: 18th May 2026
Our ref: FOI/26/016766/E

I write in connection with your request for information dated 24/04/2026, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

If you are not responsible for handing such requests, please forward this request on immediately to the relevant department or individual.

Background

On 9 March 2026 the UK Government published a non-statutory definition of anti-Muslim hostility ("the Definition"), alongside accompanying guidance published by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government.

Information Requested

I request the following information in respect of your force:

- 1. Confirmation of whether your force has adopted the Definition, in whole or in part. And if it has:***
 - a. The date of adoption***
 - b. Minutes of any and all meetings at which adoption was discussed***
 - c. Email and/or other correspondence in which adoption was discussed***
 - d. Whether the Definition, or any equivalent formulation of anti-Muslim hostility, has been incorporated or is proposed to be incorporated into any force document which could reasonably be considered to constitute policy, strategy, operational guidance, training material, hate crime recording framework, or community engagement document. For each such document, please provide:***
 - i. its title and date of publication or adoption; and***
 - ii. a copy of the document, or, where it is publicly available, a link to its location.***
- 2. Whether any guidance, circular, or recommendation has been received from the Home Office, the National Police Chiefs' Council (NPCC), the College of Policing, or any other body concerning adoption of the Definition. If so, please provide copies of that correspondence or guidance, or indicate where it is published.***

3. Whether your force is actively considering adoption of the Definition. If so, please provide details of any review, consultation, or decision-making process currently under way, including anticipated timelines.

4. Whether your force has received any complaints, reports, or recorded incidents since 9 March 2026 in which the Definition has been referenced or applied. I do not request details of individual incidents; I ask only for the aggregate number of such instances, if any.

5. Please provide copies of all documents produced internally by your force since 9 March 2026 not already captured above that relate to the Definition, including but not limited to: implementation plans, briefing notes, equality impact assessments, minutes of meetings at which adoption of the Definition was discussed, and any correspondence between your force and the Home Office, NPCC, College of Policing, or any other body on this subject — to the extent not already captured by your response to question 2.

Please provide all documents in electronic form where possible.

Exemptions

I note that this request does not concern operational policing intelligence or personal data, and I am not aware of any exemption under the Act that would apply to the categories of information sought. Should you intend to rely on any exemption, I ask that you:

- specify the statutory provision relied upon;**
- confirm whether the public interest test has been applied; and**
- provide a schedule of withheld material sufficient to allow me to assess whether to request an internal review.**

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. In relation to question 4, to determine the number of incidents and crimes recorded by GMP which reference the definition you are referring would require a manual review of all incidents and crimes since 9th March 2026. From an initial search, over 140,000 incidents and over 41,000 crimes would need to be manually reviewed. As such, it is anticipated it would take in excess of 18 hours to provide the requested information.

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.

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 keep this within the fees limit, the information that you are requesting will need to be reduced. For example, removal of question 4. 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.

Although excess costs remove GMP's obligations under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, as a gesture of goodwill I have supplied some information relative to your request that was retrieved before it was realised that the fees limit would be exceed (see below information). I hope that this is of use to you, but it does not affect our legal right to rely on the fees regulations for the remainder of your request.

Please see the link below to GMP's publication scheme which includes relevant information.

[FOI/26/016703/P - FOI RESPONSE](#)