Information Management & Data Directorate (IMDD)
Information Access Unit

Date: 23rd September 2026
Our ref: FOI/26/017632/V

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: FOI/26/017632/V

I write in connection with your request for information dated 11/09/2026, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

I am writing to make an open government request for all the information to which I am entitled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

We are seeking data held in your force's Case Management System.
For all of the following questions please provide the data broken down by the ethnicity codes that you use in your force's case management system.

1. How many people in your area went missing between 1 April 2025 and 31 March 2026? Please provide the numbers broken down by ethnicity and by age. In this question we are asking for the number of individuals, not total incidents/investigations:
a. 0 – 17 years
b. 18+ years
c. Unknown age

2. How many total missing investigations were there between 1 April 2025 and 31 March 2026? Please provide the numbers broken down by ethnicity and by age:
a. 0-17 years
b. 18+ years
c. Unknown

3. Please provide a breakdown of the outcomes of missing investigations for children between 1 April 2025 and 31 March 2026, broken down by ethnicity.
a. Found by police
b. Returned of their own accord
c. Found by another professional
d. Other

4. Please provide a breakdown of the outcomes of missing investigations for adults between 1 April 2025 and 31 March 2026, broken down by ethnicity.
a. Found by police
b. Returned of their own accord
c. Found by another professional
d. Other

5. How many missing investigations for children between 1 April 2025 and 31 March 2026, broken down by ethnicity, had a:
a. Sexual Exploitation marker
b. Criminal Exploitation marker
c. Mental health marker
d. Trafficking marker

6. How many missing investigations for adults between 1 April 2025 and 31 March 2026, broken down by ethnicity, had a mental health marker?

7. In how many missing investigations for children between 1 April 2025 and 31 March 2026, broken down by ethnicity, were the opening risk assessment levels:
a. High risk
b. Medim risk
c. Low risk
d. No apparent risk

8. In how many missing investigations for adults between 1 April 2025 and 31 March 2026, broken down by ethnicity, were the opening risk assessment levels:
a. High risk
b. Medium risk
c. Low risk
d. No apparent risk

9. Please provide the number of missing investigations for children between 1 April 2025 and 31 March 2026, broken down by ethnicity:
a. Which lasted more than 48 hours
b. Which lasted more than 7 days

10. Please provide the number of missing investigations for children between 1 April 2025 and 31 March 2026, broken down by ethnicity:
a. Which lasted more than 48 hours
b. Which lasted more than 7 days
11. In how many missing investigations for children between 1 April 2025 and 31 March 2026, broken down by ethnicity, did harm occur:
a. Harm suffered
b. Accidental harm
c. Emotional harm
d. Physical injury
e. Self-harm
f. Sexual offence victim
g. Unspecified

12. In how many missing investigations for adults between 1 April 2025 and 31 March 2026, broken down by ethnicity, did harm occur:
a. Harm suffered
b. Accidental harm
c. Emotional harm
d. Physical injury

e. Self-harm
f. Sexual offence victim
g. Unspecified

13. In how many missing investigations between 1 April 2025 and 31 March 2026, broken down by ethnicity, was there a fatal outcome:
a. Child missing incident
b. Adult missing incident

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.

Question 1 – To provide the number of individuals relevant to this request would require a manual review of all individuals' records. From an initial search 11,965 individuals' records would require a manual review. At an estimate of 5 minutes per record would take in excess of 997 hours to provide a response to question 1 alone.

Questions 5, 9 10, 11 - To collate and provide a response to these questions would require a manual search of 17,251 records. At an estimate of 5 minutes per search would take in excess of 1,437 hours to collate the information required for question 5, 9, 10 and 11.

Question 6 and 12 – To collate and provide a response to these questions would require a manual search of 12,344 records. At an estimate of 5 minutes per search would take in excess of 1,028 hours to collate the information required for questions 6 and 12.

Question 13 – To determine the ethnicity of each individual would require a manual review of each record. From an initial search 68 records would require a manual review. At an estimate of 5 minutes per record would take in excess of 6 hours to ascertain the data required.

To provide a response to questions 1, 5, 6, 9, 10, 11, 12 and part of 13 would take in excess of 3,468 hours.

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.

Section 16(1) – the duty to provide advice and assistance – of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, Greater Manchester Police will be unable able to provide advice for you to reduce these questions in order for the force to keep this within the fees limit as a manual review would always be required for this data.

Should you wish to refine and resubmit your request in line with the advice above please respond to freedomofinformation@gmp.police.uk

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 fee's regulations for the remainder of your request.

Question 1 – Exempt. Section 12

Question 2 – Investigations created between 01/04/2025 and 31/03/2026.

Ethnicity/Age Range	0 – 17	18 +	Unknown
IC1 White – North European	7802	7326	5
IC2 White – South European	92	158	0
IC3 Black	5652	945	0
IC4 Asian	573	658	1
IC5 Chinese, Japanese, Korean or other Southeast Asian	8	21	0
IC6 Arabic	175	124	1
Uknown/Not Recorded	2949	3112	4

Question 3 – Child investigations created between 01/04/2025 and 31/03/2026.
Some duplication recording event.

Outcome	Total
Found X Police	4656
Returned Own Accord	10762
Found X Other Professional	529
Other	1304

Question 4 – Adult investigations created between 01/04/2025 and 31/03/2026.

Outcome	Total
Found X Police	5106
Returned Own Accord	5782
Found X Other Professional	670
Other	786

Question 5 – Exempt. Section 12

Question 6 – Exempt. Section 12

Question 7 – Child – Opening risk assessment

Outcome	Total
High	11767
Medium	4204
Low	7
No Apparent Risk	28
Not Recorded	1245

Question 8 – Adult – Opening risk assessment

Outcome	Total
High	5972
Medium	4888
Low	172
No Apparent Risk	39
Not Recorded	1273

Question 9 – Exempt. Section 12

Question 10 – Exempt. Section 12

Question 11 – Exempt. Section 12

Question 12 – Exempt. Section 12

Question 13 – Fatal outcome between 01/04/2025 and 31/03/2026.

Adult	68
Child	0