Information Access Unit
Information Management and Data Directorate

Date: 08/10/2026
Our ref: 01/FOI/26/017647/C

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/26/017647/C

I write in connection with your request for information dated 14/09/2026, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

I am writing to request information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Following feedback from my previous request about obtaining data on the number of car accidents involving deer specifically, I am submitting a new requesting asking for just animal related incidents and collisions

- *I am requesting the total number of reported animal-related road traffic collisions and incidents in your police force area.*
  - *Please provide a simple table for the number of reported road traffic incidents with animals each year for the latest available calendar year (2025) and, if possible, separate figures for the two preceding years (2023 and 2024).*

The data should include all reported road traffic accidents and incidents involving animals, including deer, horse, livestock, dog, and all other wildlife or pets.

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. There may have been a number of collisions involving animals; however, this information is not recorded in a searchable format. Any reference to an animal would typically be contained within the free-text collision description or narrative.

Furthermore, the presence of an animal does not necessarily mean that the animal caused or contributed to the collision. Even where an animal was involved or present, the investigating officer may not have considered an animal-related factor to be applicable and therefore may not have recorded the collision against the relevant Road Safety Factor.

The Force does not maintain a searchable category for the specific type of animal involved in a collision. To identify collisions involving a particular animal would require a manual review of individual collision records and associated narrative fields.

Such a review would involve locating, retrieving and examining each relevant record and would exceed the appropriate limit. Therefore, to comply with the whole of your request the process would take over 18 hours' work which exceeds the appropriate limit of £450.00, the amount to which we are legally required to respond.

As per section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the cost of providing you with the information is therefore 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. 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.

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. For the force to keep this within the fees limit, the information that you are requesting will need to be reduced to a greatly reduced time period. 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.