



Date: 28/09/2026
Our ref: 01/FOI/26/017679/K

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/26/017679/K

I write in connection with your request for information dated 17/09/2026, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

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

1. *Please provide the number of people arrested in your force area for offences committed by a passenger on board an aircraft, broken down by offence, in the calendar years 2023, 2024 and 2025. Please include offences under the Air Navigation Order 2016 and the Aviation Security Act 1982, and general offences such as common assault, being drunk and disorderly, public order offences and criminal damages.*
2. *Separately, please provide the number of people arrested for the offences above committed within the airport itself, rather than on board an aircraft, in the calendar years 2023, 2024 and 2025.*
3. *If your force area has more than one airport, please break both sets down by airport.*

I would prefer to receive the information in electronic format, preferably as a CSV or Excel spreadsheet. If this is not possible, please provide the information in the most accessible format available.

I understand that you are required to respond to this request within 20 working days. If you need any clarification regarding this request, please do not hesitate to contact me.

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. To provide the data requested in would involve a manual search of all custody records between 2023 and 2025 to establish if the offence took place on an aircraft. Location of the offence is not a searchable field on our arrests system, and the location of the arrest will not always be the same location as the offence. Therefore, we anticipate that 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. Alternatively, you can request the number of crimes recorded for certain aviation related offences and how many of those resulted in an arrest, as this is easier to search for on our systems. 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 may 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.