GREATER MANCHESTER POLICE

Date: 06/10/2026
Our ref: 01/FOI/26/017690/F

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/26/017690/F

I write in connection with your request for information dated 21/09/2026, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

This request covers the period from 1 January 2026 to 20 September 2026, inclusive, and is confined to recorded information held by or on behalf of Greater Manchester Police Professional Standards Department ("GMP PSD"). It concerns reports submitted through GMP PSD's secure electronic portal, or through an IOPC secure electronic portal and subsequently referred, forwarded, transferred, or otherwise made available to GMP PSD, which alleged conduct by a serving officer that was recorded or classified as potentially amounting to a serious criminal offence. I seek aggregate recorded information showing how those reports and allegations were registered, crime-recorded, assigned reference numbers, investigated, or referred for criminal investigation, together with the recorded reason for every exception.

For this request, "physical-mail requirement" means any recorded requirement, direction, reason, outcome, workflow status, or communication stating or indicating that an allegation, complaint, witness or evidential statement, statement concerning proposed or contemplated criminal proceedings, or supporting material had to be submitted by post, letter, hard copy, or another physical-delivery method instead of, or in addition to, a secure electronic channel. This includes records showing that GMP PSD redirected a sender to physical mail, requested resubmission by physical mail, or declined or deferred registration, crime recording, assessment, criminal investigation, or referral pending receipt by physical mail.

Scope clarification — no personal information sought: This request does not seek personal data relating to any identifiable living individual, including any serving or former officer, employee, complainant, witness, member of the public, or other third party. I do not request names, contact details, personal statements, case-specific evidence, or identifying case or reference numbers. The request is confined to aggregate or anonymised statistics, recorded reasons and outcome categories, and the organisational records expressly identified below. If responsive information contains personal data or other exempt material, please redact only the

exempt information and disclose all reasonably severable non-exempt information. If aggregation at a particular level would create a genuine risk of identification, please provide the information at the next reasonably practicable level of aggregation rather than withholding the relevant category in full.

Please provide the following information from records held by or on behalf of GMP PSD:

1. ***Reports and distinct allegations received: For each secure-portal channel, the total number of relevant reports received by or referred to GMP PSD and, if separately held, the total number of distinct alleged offences contained within those reports. Please state the counting unit used.***
2. ***Auditable incident registration: For each channel, the number of reports registered on an auditable incident or crime-recording system and assigned an incident, submission, log, or equivalent reference; the number not so registered; and the recorded reason for each category of non-registration. No actual reference numbers are requested.***
3. ***Crime-recording outcomes: For each channel, the number of distinct relevant allegations for which a crime record was created or caused to be created; the number for which no crime record was created; and every recorded reason, contributing reason, outcome code, workflow status, disposal category, policy basis, or legal basis for non-recording.***
4. ***Crime reference numbers: For each channel, the number of crime-recorded allegations for which a unique crime reference number was assigned and the number for which none was assigned, together with the recorded reason for every exception. No actual crime reference numbers or identifying information are requested.***
5. ***Criminal-investigation outcomes: For each channel, the number of distinct relevant allegations for which a criminal investigation was commenced or caused to be commenced and the number for which no criminal investigation was commenced. Please provide separately any cases that received only an initial assessment, complaint-handling review, or misconduct assessment.***
6. ***External referrals: For each channel, the number of distinct relevant allegations referred to another police force, the IOPC, or another competent body for criminal investigation and the number for which no such referral was recorded. Please distinguish referrals for criminal investigation from referrals only for complaint or conduct handling, if held.***
7. ***Combined non-recording and non-investigation: For each channel, the number of distinct relevant allegations for which there was no crime record, no criminal investigation, and no external referral for criminal investigation. Please count each allegation once only and explain how duplicate, linked, transferred, or resubmitted records were treated.***
8. ***Physical-mail requirement: For each of the non-registration, non-recording, non-investigation, or non-referral outcomes above, the number for which the physical-mail requirement was recorded as the sole reason or as a contributing reason, together with the recorded wording or outcome category used.***
9. ***Monthly breakdown and reconciliation: For each month from January to September 2026, with September limited to 1–20 September, provide separate figures for each secure-portal channel for every category above. Please show zero values rather than blank cells. Monthly totals should reconcile with the overall totals, or any difference should be explained.***
10. ***Applicable crime-recording guidance: Copies of the operative GMP PSD policy, procedure, standard operating procedure, or guidance applied during the specified period to: (a) auditable incident registration; (b) decisions whether to record an allegation as a crime; (c) allocation of incident or crime reference numbers; (d) decisions whether to commence or refer a criminal investigation; and (e) any requirement to resubmit electronically received material by physical mail. If GMP PSD relied solely on published Home Office Crime Recording Rules or another external standard, please identify the title and version relied upon.***

Definitions and methodology: Please state the date field and counting unit used for reports, distinct allegations, incident records, crime records, and crime reference numbers, and explain how duplicate, linked, transferred, resubmitted, or multiple-offence reports were treated. Please identify the recorded classifications used for "serious criminal offence", "crime-recorded", "criminal investigation", "external referral for criminal investigation", and "physical-mail requirement". If no single field or category corresponds to a requested term, please provide the closest recorded figures held and explain the limitation.

If any requested figure is not held in the precise form requested, please provide the component figures or recorded categories that are held, identify the item not held, and state whether the requested total can be obtained by a simple calculation from existing recorded information. If section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 is considered applicable, please identify the parts said to exceed the appropriate limit, provide a reasonable cost estimate, provide advice and assistance under section 16 on practical refinement, and disclose all information that can be provided within the limit. Please provide the statistics electronically in a table or spreadsheet and the guidance in electronic form. If any information is withheld, please identify the precise statutory provision relied upon and, where applicable, explain the public-interest balance. Please redact only exempt material, disclose all reasonably severable non-exempt information, and provide details of the procedure and time limit for requesting an internal review.

Result of Searches

Following receipt of your request searches were conducted within Greater Manchester Police (GMP) to locate the requested information and I can confirm some of the information 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 7, GMP is unable to provide this information from existing reports or system searches. The systems used do not contain a searchable field that would allow the extraction of allegations made against police officers which were subsequently assessed as not constituting a crime. To identify and quantify this information, each complaint record would need to be reviewed individually to determine whether it meets the criteria specified in the request. The information is therefore not held in a readily retrievable format and could only be obtained through a manual review of the relevant records.
GMP's PSD unit have located over 7000 complaints in that time frame and reviewing each one would take over 18 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.

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 attempt to keep this within the fees limit, the information you are requesting will need revising with a reduced time frame and/or a reduction in the volume of required information. It may also assist our data holders in providing a more streamlined revised request to simplify what your request seeks. For some areas, it was unclear what information you require due to some of the wording used such as "none registration", "each secure portal". With any request that requires a manual review there is always a chance of a request being refused under S12 due to the enormity of work that is usually needed to provide the data, therefore 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.

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