

Date: 02/09/2026
Our ref: 01/FOI/26/017377/Z

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/26/017377/Z

I write in connection with your request for information dated 04/08/2026, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

- 1. I would like to know between Jan 2020 and now, how many police officers, of all rank, on transfer to Greater Manchester Police, have failed their vetting clearance.*
- 2. I would also like to know on appeal, how many were successful.*
- 3. I would like to know the rank of officers.*

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 the information requested is held by GMP.

However, GMP does not hold the information that you have requested in an easily retrievable format.

GMP would be unable to supply the data for this FOI without carrying out a review manually off all the records that fit the criteria. GMP do not record transferees in a separate data set centrally, instead this is recorded along with student officers and Rejoiners. Between the 1st of January 2020 to the 31st July 2026, we have recorded a total number of 5299 police officers and so each of these would have to be trawled through to understand how many of these relate to transfers only. At a conservative rate of 5 minutes to review each one, this FOI would take over 440hrs to provide a response.

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. For example, from January 2026 – July 2026 GMP had 488 records that fit this FOI, so a timeframe of less than 7 months would be advisable as a total of 488 would still take around 40hrs to complete. 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.