



Date: 02/09/2026
Our ref: 01/FOI/26/017399/F

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/26/017399/F

I write in connection with your request for information dated 06/08/2026, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

I am writing to request the following recorded information. My preference is for the financial year 2024-25, or the most recent year held.

- 1. The average cost to the force of detaining one person in police custody, expressed per detainee or per detention hour, however the force records it. If the figure is held on a per-custody-suite or per-detention basis rather than per hour, I am content to receive it in that form, together with the average detention duration if held.*
- 2. The fully loaded hourly cost of a police constable, meaning salary, on-costs and any overhead uplift the force applies for costing purposes, and the basis on which it is calculated.*
- 3. Any recorded estimate of the cost to the force of executing an arrest warrant issued by a magistrates' court, or of the average officer time taken to locate and arrest a person wanted on such a warrant.*
- 4. The number of arrest warrants issued by magistrates' courts and received by the force for execution in each of the financial years 2023-24 and 2024-25, and the number executed, if held.*

This request supports an academic economic evaluation being prepared for publication in a peer-reviewed journal, which compares costs across several police forces. The same request is being made to a small number of other forces. I set out that context only to assist you in locating the information, and I recognise that a request under the Act is not conditional on the applicant's purpose.

I am content to receive the information in whatever form it is held, including spreadsheets or extracts from a finance system, and I do not ask the force to produce information it does not already hold.

If you estimate that complying with this request as a whole would exceed the appropriate limit under section 12 of the Act, please do not refuse it in its entirety. My priority order is items 1,

2, 3 and 4, in that order, and I am content for you to disregard the remainder to bring the request within the limit. I would welcome any advice and assistance under section 16 as to how the request might be reframed.

I look forward to your response within 20 working days, as provided by section 10 of the Act. If you intend to rely on any exemption, please issue a refusal notice under section 17 specifying the exemption relied on.

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 some of the information you have requested is held by GMP.

1. An average figure per prisoner is not held by GMP. There would be too many factors to consider to calculate an average figure. Blue Light Commercial provide an hourly rate that GMP use for charging other police forces, this is £38.93 for the first hour and £30.43 for each subsequent hour.
2. £30.14. This cost includes basic pay, unsocial hours payments, unsocial hours (overtime) payments, on-call payments, housing allowance, rent allowance, compensatory grant, Employer's National Insurance and Employer's Pension contributions. It is based on the [Police Officer pay scale](#).
3. This information is not held by GMP. These averages are not held and we are not obliged to calculate an average to answer a Freedom of Information Act request.
4. The below figures do not account for warrants that were withdrawn. Executed figures includes warrants that were issued in previous years, but executed in the years of your request.
 - 2023/24 – 110 issued, 3,887 executed
 - 2024/25 – 163 issued, 3,278 executed