

Date: 03/09/2026
Our ref: 01/FOI/26/017451/S

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/26/017451/S

I write in connection with your request for information dated 13/08/2026, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

Q1 What system or process do you use for classifying a missing person's ethnicity and nationality?

Q2 How is a missing person's ethnicity and nationality determined?

***Q3 How many Vietnamese adults have been recorded as missing and not found since 2022?
Dates can be calendar or financial years***

Q4 How many Vietnamese adults have been recorded as missing and subsequently found since 2022?

Q5 How many missing people currently on your recording system have an unspecified nationality?

Q6 How many missing people currently on your recording system have an unspecified ethnicity?

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 all of the information that you have requested in an easily retrievable format.

GMP would be unable to provide a response in full to this request without completing a review for questions 4 and 5. Nationality is not a searchable field within our system and to reply with the data held for these questions would result in a manual review across each individual record where ethnicity is recorded as either "IC5", "Chinese", "South East Asian" or "unknown" This would far exceed the 18hrs permitted to respond.

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 shorter time frame and/or the removal of questions 4 and 5. However, 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.

Although excess costs remove GMP's obligations under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, as a gesture of goodwill I have supplied some information relative to your request that was retrieved before it was realised that the fees limit would be exceeded (see below information). I hope that this is of use to you, but it does not affect our legal right to rely on the fee's regulations for the remainder of your request.

1. Policeworks
2. Our system records ethnicity as either "self" defined or "officer" defined. Nationality is recorded using free text and is not a system searchable field. Any searches for nationality have to be manually completed.
3. 13 individuals since 01/01/22.