

Date: 02/09/2026
Our ref: 01/FOI/26/017491/A

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/26/017491/A

I write in connection with your request for information dated 20/08/2026, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

This is an information request relating to the Special Escort Group of Greater Manchester Police.

Please provide the following information for the period 2024-25 (outturn), 2025-26 (outturn) and 2026-27 (estimate):

- 1. What was the outturn expenditure of the Special Escort Group in 2024-25?***
- 2. What was the outturn expenditure of the Special Escort Group in 2025-26?***
- 3. What is the estimated outturn/forecast outturn expenditure of the Special Escort Group in 2026-27?***

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.

GMP do not hold the information you have requested in a central location as there is no expenditure figures held for the Special Escort Group (SEG). The SEG is not a separately constituted unit with its own budget, and personnel and resources are drawn on an ad hoc basis from a number of departments. Related costs are not centrally recorded under a single cost heading. To identify, locate and calculate any SEG-related expenditure would require extensive manual searches and invoices and the collation of information from multiple business areas. It is therefore estimated that the work necessary to determine whether the requested information is held, and to extract and compile it, would

exceed the appropriate limit of 18 hours as set out in Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

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.

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 specific dates/events that you feel apply to this request. However, please note 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.