



Date: 15/09/2026
Our ref: 01/FOI/26/017509/T

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/26/017509/T

I write in connection with your request for information dated 24/08/2026, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

I am making a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 for specific data from your police force in relation to:

1. *The number of children (aged 17 years and under) arrested at a place of education for the following years:*

- 2020/21
- 2021/22
- 2022/23
- 2023/24
- 2024/25

* *For each year, please provide a breakdown by:*

* *Age of the child at the time of arrest (where recorded)*

* *Sex of the child*

* *Offence category or type for which the arrest was made (e.g. assault, drug offences, weapons offences, public order)*

* *Whether the child was subsequently charged, released under investigation, given a caution, or had no further action taken*

2. *Whether your force holds a specific policy or guidance document relating to the arrest of children on school premises, and if so, the title of that document. Please also provided a copy if possible.*

If your force does not collect the data requested above, please confirm this.

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 the information you have requested is held by GMP.

However, GMP does not hold the information that you have requested in an easily retrievable format. To provide the data requested in question 1 would involve a manual search of all arrests of people under the age of 17 between 2020 and 2025 to determine if the location of the arrest was an educational establishment. The type of premises where an arrest occurs is not a searchable field on our arrests system, so a manual review of all arrests would be needed.

A search of our arrest records shows that there are 22,909 records that would have to be manually reviewed. At a very conservative estimate of 5 minutes to locate, retrieve and review each file it would take approximately 1,909 hours to ascertain the data required. Therefore, to comply with the whole of your request the process would take over 18 hours' work which exceeds the appropriate limit of £450.00, the amount to which we are legally required to respond.

As per section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the cost of providing you with the information is therefore 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. 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 and so no other searches have been completed at this stage.

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. For the force to keep this within the fees limit, the information that you are requesting will need to be reduced to a greatly reduced time period. 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.