

**Information Governance Unit  
Information Management Branch**

14 July 2009

Dear XXXX

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: XXXX**

I write in connection with your request for information dated 16/06/2009, which was received by Greater Manchester Police on 16/06/2009, for the following information:

The Ministry of Justice has now requested that from April 1, 2008 to March 31, 2009, data must be collected on the number of offenders across all categories and all levels who are charged with a serious further offence whilst being a part of MAPPA. Please could you answer the following questions based upon this information:

- Question 1. How many people were managed at each of the three Categories and at each of the three levels of MAPPA in the year 2008-09? I.E. – how many Category 1 offenders at Level 1? How many Category 1 offenders at Level 2? And so on.
- Question 2. How many Category 1 (Registered Sex Offenders) offenders, managed at Level 3 under MAPPA, were charged with serious further offences in the year 2008-09?
- Question 3. How many Category 1 (Registered Sex Offenders) offenders, managed at Level 2 under MAPPA, were charged with serious further offences in the year 2008-09?
- Question 4. How many Category 1 (Registered Sex Offenders) offenders, managed at Level 1 under MAPPA, were charged with serious further offences in the year 2008-09?
- Question 5. How many Category 2 (Violent Offenders and other Sexual Offenders) offenders, managed at Level 3 under MAPPA, were charged with serious further offences in the year 2008-09?
- Question 6. How many Category 2 (Violent Offenders and other Sexual Offenders) offenders, managed at Level 2 under MAPPA, were charged with serious further offences in the year 2008-09?

Question 7. How many Category 2 (Violent Offenders and other Sexual Offenders) offenders, managed at Level 1 under MAPPA, were charged with serious further offences in the year 2008-09?

Question 8. How many Category 3 (Other Dangerous Offenders) offenders, managed at Level 3 under MAPPA, were charged with serious further offences in the year 2008-09?

Question 9. How many Category 3 (Other Dangerous Offenders) offenders, managed at Level 2 under MAPPA, were charged with serious further offences in the year 2008-09?

\* There are no Category 3 (Other Dangerous Offenders) managed at Level 1 under MAPPA.

Question 10. How many Level 1 offenders were returned to custody for a breach of their license?

Question 11. How many Level 1 offenders were returned to custody for a breach of their SOPO?

Question 12. How many Level 2 offenders were returned to custody for a breach of their license?

Question 13. How many Level 2 offenders were returned to custody for a breach of their SOPO?

Question 14. How many Level 3 offenders were returned to custody for a breach of their license?

Question 15. How many Level 3 offenders were returned to custody for a breach of their SOPO?

Question 16. If figures for the full year 2008-09 are not currently available I would welcome any 'part-year' answers to the above questions, perhaps based upon the first 6 months of the year (April 1 – September 31st, 2008).

Following receipt of your request searches were conducted within Greater Manchester Police to locate information relevant to your request. I can confirm that the information you have requested is held in part by Greater Manchester Police (GMP).

Questions 1 to 3 - 5,6,8,9 and 12 to 16. Your request for this information has now been considered and I am not obliged to supply the information requested.

Section 17 of the Freedom Of Information Act requires Greater Manchester Police, when refusing to provide information (because the information is exempt) to provide you, the applicant, with a notice which: (a) states that fact, (b) specifies the exemption in question and (c) states (if that would otherwise be apparent) why the exemption applies.

The following exemption applies, Section 22(1)(a)(b), which is a qualified and classed based exemption and relates to Information Intended for Future Publication. Furthermore, because this exemption is qualified, the Public Interest Test needs to be articulated. (Please see below);

Question 4. 6, were charged with serious further offences in the year 08/09.

Question 7 & 10. No information held by GMP. However, to comply with s16 of the Freedom of Information Act (Providing Advice and Assistance), may I advise you to contact the Probation Service, who may be able to provide the requested information. I have provided a link to their website;

<http://www.probation.homeoffice.gov.uk/output/page9.asp>

Question 11. 3, Level 1 offenders were returned to custody for a breach of their SOPO. In addition to comply with s16 of the Freedom of Information Act (Providing Advice and Assistance), the following link to our website may be of interest;

[http://www.gmp.police.uk/mainsite/0/17ADA996C02BA917802571030053AFA3/\\$file/MAPPA%20Annual%20Report%2004-05.pdf](http://www.gmp.police.uk/mainsite/0/17ADA996C02BA917802571030053AFA3/$file/MAPPA%20Annual%20Report%2004-05.pdf)

## **Public Interest Test**

### **Factors Favouring Disclosure**

#### Accountability

When information relates directly to the efficiency and effectiveness of the force or its officers, the Freedom of Information should be used as an instrument to obtain such information. In this particular case disclosure of the requested information would provide updated statistics, demonstrating continued and ongoing awareness and monitoring of RSO activity.

#### Public Awareness and Debate

The disclosure of the most recently collected statistics would enhance public knowledge of the subject, by providing current information that may better inform public debate and the decisions of individuals.

### **Considerations Favouring Non-Disclosure**

#### Efficient and Effective Conduct of the Service/Force

To respond to this request, the information would need to be retrieved and collated, as it is effectively not held at the present time. To gather the information, prior to the requirement to do so for the next scheduled MAPPA report, will involve a disproportionate use of resources at this time.

#### Existing Procedures

The MAPPA report is published to facilitate greater awareness of the progress being made by those authorities entrusted with a public protection remit. The range of information contained in the report, and the resources required to draw together and present this information, have increased substantially since its first publication in 2002. This is evidenced by the 2006 publication, which was the most comprehensive report produced to date. This is only made possible by the diversion of resources in to an annual effort. The Freedom of Information Act legally allows members of the public to request any information held by a public authority. In order to supply this information, resources are allocated to locate and retrieve it. The Section 21 and 22 exemptions were specifically laid down by parliament to benefit those authorities who proactively publish information. To constantly produce new and up to date elements of the currently published information, in order to satisfy an additional need outside of the annual schedule will render these exemptions less effective and remove the benefits of proactive publication.

## **Balancing Test**

As the decision to publish the requested information was made prior to the submission of this request, as well as a firm date for publication, which in this particular case October 2009. GMP feels it is reasonable, having taking into account all the circumstances, to rely on Section 22 and that the balance of the Public Interest would favour publishing the information in October within the MAPPA Report which provides a full and detailed explanation for how RSOs are monitored.

## Complaint Rights

Your attention is drawn to the attached sheet, which details your right of complaint.

Should you have any further inquiries concerning this matter, please write or contact me, on telephone number 0161 856 2529 quoting the reference number above.

Yours sincerely,

Information Access Officer