

**Information Management Section  
Criminal Justice Division**

1<sup>st</sup> May 2007

Dear XXXX

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

I write in connection with your request for information dated 11/04/2007, which was received by Greater Manchester Police on 11/04/2007. I note you seek access to the following information:

- I would like to know, from the figures you hold, how many people who have admitted sex offences in the past five years have been let off with a caution. The offences I would like figures for are rape, indecent assault and gross indecency with a child and other sexual offences. The dates I would like figures for are from January 2002 to January 2007, if that is possible.

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 by Greater Manchester Police.

Please find the information that you have requested on the table below, please note that these figures are per financial year (April-March) and include all cautions, reprimands and final warnings:

<b>Offence / Year</b>	<b>2002-03</b>	<b>2003-04</b>	<b>2004-05</b>	<b>2005-06</b>
Unlawful Sexual Intercourse with a girl under 16 years	4	8	14	18
Indecent Assault	40	38	31	31
Buggery	0	0	0	0
Rape	3	2	4	7
Gross Indecency between Males	1	2	0	0
Familial Sexual Offences	0	0	0	7

People who receive a police caution are not 'let off', as this still attracts a criminal record.

A Greater Manchester Police spokesperson said: "Between April 2002 and March 2006, GMP issued 210 cautions for a range of sexual offences.

“Cautions are issued in accordance with national guidance and they can be given for a variety of reasons, including a first offence or if the victim does not want to go to court.

“A number of important factors are taken into account when considering whether to issue a caution for an offence, including the views of the victim and their age, welfare and mental wellbeing, the circumstances of the offence, the likelihood of reoffending and the situation of the offender.

“We would not issue a caution where we felt there was an ongoing risk to the public and they are rarely given for serious sexual offences.

“Everyone who agrees to a caution for a sexual offence must sign the sex offender’s register, in line with the Sexual Offences Act 2003.”

#### Complaint Rights

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

Yours Sincerely,