



Date: 14/12/2023
Our ref: 01/FOI/23/011682/S

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/23/011682/S

I write in connection with your request for information dated 17/11/2023, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

- a) The total number of recorded offences of indecent images (still or moving) of children and prohibited images of children for the period 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023.*
- b) The number of recorded offences which related to pseudo images of children.*
- c) The total number of recorded offences where an Artificial Intelligence (AI) generated child abuse image was detected.*
- d) For each offence for the period 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022 please break it down by the platform used to commit the offence where known using the following key word search: Snapchat, Facebook/Messenger, Instagram, WhatsApp, X/Twitter, Kik, TikTok, YouTube, Discord, Skype, Facetime, Roblox, Oculus, VR, Metaverse, Only Fans, Signal, iCloud, iMessgae, Dropbox, Mega, Patreon, other social media or messaging site, other cloud storage site and online gaming.*
- e) The number of recorded offences of which contained a cyber-flag.*

Further to my request on November 17th, please see updated request with the date amended for part d). The dates should be 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023.

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.

Greater Manchester Police (GMP) does not hold the information that you have requested in an easily retrievable format. To provide the data requested in questions B and C would involve a manual search of all Indecent Images of Children crimes within your time frame to determine which relate to "pseudo images". The Home Office offence title and code do not differentiate between photographs and "pseudo photographs", so a manual review would be necessary in this case. Furthermore, a manual review would also be needed to determine whether the incident in question involved the use of AI-generated imagery.

A search of our records shows that for there are 1836 crime records that would need to be reviewed. At a very conservative estimate of 5 minutes to locate, retrieve and review each file it would take approximately 153 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.

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 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.

Should you wish to refine and resubmit your request in line with the advice above please respond to freedomofinformation@gmp.police.uk