



**Date:** 19/07/2023  
**Our ref:** 01/FOI/23/002452/F

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/23/002452/F**

I write in connection with your request for information dated 12/06/2023, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

All Greater Manchester Police crime data from May 2020 until May 2023. The data should be presentable similar to what the Metropolitan Police or other UK police forces are providing. Data to be provided electronically, ideally in a csv or xlsx format. Data to be broken down per calendar year, month, days. Data to be broken down per city, borough, ward. Data to be broken down per Offence and Offence Subgroup, similar to Metropolitan Police and other UK police forces.

**Result of Searches**

Following receipt of your request searches were conducted within Greater Manchester Police to locate the requested information and I can confirm the information requested is held by GMP. However, GMP is not obliged to provide the requested information, as an exemption applies. Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires Greater Manchester Police, when refusing to provide such 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 not otherwise be apparent) why the exemption applies. The information requested is exempt from disclosure by virtue of **Section 22(1)(a) – Information intended for future publication.**

[www.police.uk](http://www.police.uk)

As the exemption used is a qualified exemption a public interest test (PIT) needs to be applied.

**Factors Favouring Disclosure**

Disclosure of the requested information at the present time would allow the public to have access to the information immediately, would enhance public knowledge of the subject and would promote the accountability and aid transparency of GMP.

**Factors Favouring Non-Disclosure**

Reviewing and formatting the data at the present time, in response to a Freedom of Information request, would be a duplication of work and would involve a disproportionate use of GMP resources and would not be an economical use of public funds. Additionally, should the data from the upcoming report be released prematurely, there is the possibility that it may contain inaccuracies if it has not been subject to full scrutiny procedures.

**Balancing Test**

When balancing the Public Interest Test, we must consider whether the Public Interest is best served by the release of the information into the public domain immediately or by the withholding of the information. Arguments need to be weighed against each other. The most persuasive reason for disclosure is the facilitation of transparency of GMP, which needs to be weighed against the strongest negative reason, which, in this case, is the disproportionate use of GMP resources and an uneconomical use of public funds. Therefore, the stance at this time is that the requested data is exempt from disclosure in response to a Freedom of Information request due to its future official publication by GMP. In accordance with the S17 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, this letter acts as a Refusal Notice.