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Date: 21st March 2023
Our ref: GSA 1405/23

[REDACTED]

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: GSA 1405/23

I write in connection with your request for information dated 13/03/2023, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

1. How many reports of sexual assault were made between:

January 2022 - January 2023
January 2021 - January 2022
January 2020 - January 2021
January 2019 - January 2020

2. Of these reports how many were closed without an outcome between:

January 2022 - January 2023
January 2021 - January 2022
January 2020 - January 2021
January 2019 - January 2020

3. How many cases of sexual assault were closed within a week of them being reported between:

January 2022 - January 2023
January 2021 - January 2022
January 2020 - January 2021
January 2019 - January 2020

4. How many cases of sexual assault were closed within a month of them being reported between:

January 2022 - January 2023

January 2021 - January 2022
January 2020 - January 2021
January 2019 - January 2020

Please can I have a breakdown of reasons why cases were closed.

Please can I have a breakdown of the gender of the victim.

Please can I have a breakdown of the name of the city where the reports of sexual assault happened, i.e Birmingham.

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 for question 3 and 4 would require a manual review of each individual sexual offence crime record for the period requested to establish whether the crime was closed within 1 week and 1 month. A search of GMPs records shows a total of 17,751 records. At a very conservative estimate of 5 minutes per record would take this request to in excess of 1,479 hours to ascertain the data required. As such, it is anticipated it would take in excess of 18hours to provide the requested information.

Therefore as per section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the cost of providing you with the information is 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 much shorter 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

Although excess costs remove GMP's obligations under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, as a gesture of goodwill I have supplied some information relative to your request that was retrieved before it was realised that the fees limit would be exceed (see below information). I hope that this is of use to you, but it does not affect our legal right to rely on the fees regulations for the remainder of your request.

Results

Caveats

1. This request considers volume of crimes as opposed to incidents.
2. The data has then been broken down by victim Gender, Location of offence, Current status of crime & No Outcome.
3. The period considered is 01/01/2019 - 31/12/2022.
4. Where possible Duplicates have been removed.

In July 2019, GMP implemented one of the largest IT infrastructure changes in UK policing. The systems are in continual development and the data provided for this request is what the systems currently hold.

Year	Sexual Offence (Not Rape)	No Outcome
2019	3,859	3,365
2020	4,926	4,020
2021	4,039	3,517
2022	4,927	4,029

No Outcome Includes:

Eliminated
 Evidential Difficulties – Victim Based
 Further investigation not in the public interest
 Investigation Completed – No suspect
 Named Suspect Too ill
 Named Suspect – U10
 Named Suspect – Victim Dead/Too Ill
 Not in Public Interest (CPS)
 Offender has Died
 Prosecution not in the Public Interest (Pol)
 Prosecution Time Limit Expired
 Suspect Identified - Insufficient Evidence (CPS)
 Suspect Identified - Insufficient Evidence (Police)
 Suspect not Identified - Victim Refuses
 Suspect Identified - Victim does not support

Year	Female Victim	Male Victim
2019	3,107	752
2020	3,981	945
2021	3,326	713
2022	3,982	945

Location	2019	2020	2021	2022
CoM	1,027	1,479	1,106	1,480
F	324	401	325	401
G	281	345	281	345
J	275	369	269	369
K	387	462	345	463
L	346	433	438	433
M	244	265	236	265
N	228	341	272	341
P	246	360	347	361
Q	348	379	347	379
UNKNOWN	153	92	73	90

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