

Date: 02/11/2023
Our ref: 01/FOI/23/011517/G

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/23/011517/G

I write in connection with your request for information dated 18/10/2023, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

- 1. The number of dog attacks on a person each month within the last six months, and what the breed of dog was***
- 2. The number of fatal dog attacks on a person each month within the last six months, and what the breed of dog was***
- 3. The number of dog attacks on another dog each month within the last six months, and what breed of dog the attacker was***
- 4. The number of fatal dog attacks on another dog each month within the last six months, and what breed of dog the attacker was***
- 5. The number of arrests made over dog attacks and dangerous dogs each month within the last six months, and what breed the dog was***
- 6. The number of dogs destroyed after a police incident each month in the last six months, and what breed the dog was***

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.

However, GMP does not hold the information that you have requested in an easily retrievable format.

To be able to provide a response to questions 1, 3 and 4, it would require a manual review to be done to ascertain the breed of dog, whether the injured party was a person or another dog, and whether it ended in fatality. GMP systems do not directly record the requested information in an easily retrievable format, on initial search's using the Home Office offence 008/21, I have located over 800 incidents recorded during your requested timeframe, and at a conservative estimate of 5 minutes to manually review each one it is expected to take over 70hrs to provide a response.

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 of 18hrs, the information that you are requesting will need to be reduced to a smaller time frame period to search under. If the request was refined to only ask for the total number of attacks under the HO code 008/21 then we may be able to provide this without a manual review. We may also be able to provide a response to questions 2 and 6 if the refined request asked for these only. However, 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.