

**Date:** 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2024  
**Our ref:** FOI/24/012385/L

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: FOI/24/012385/L**

I write in connection with your request for information dated 28/03/2024, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

- 1. How many arrests have your police force made for the offences of supplying controlled drugs or possession with intent to supply controlled drugs in the last year (2023 calendar year) for young persons aged sixteen or under?**
- 2. Please provide if possible the figures for each age group i.e. ten, eleven, twelve etc and also broken down by gender for each of the two offences, breaking the alleged offences down by Class A and Class B drugs.**
- 3. For those children who were arrested AND were aged 13 or under please provide specific details on the charge they were arrested on and the exact type and class of drug they were alleged to have been involved with as well as their age.**

**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, I am not obliged to provide all the information as exemption applies.

Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires Greater Manchester Police, when refusing to provide such information (because this 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.

Section 40(2) is an absolute exemption with no requirement to complete a public interest test.

Due to the low numbers returned question 3 and the age breakdown in question 2 has been exempt from disclosure under Section 40(2) Personal Information – this information constitutes personal data of an identifiable living individual, and to disclose this information would breach the principles of the

General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and the Data Protection Act 2018. Personal data is defined by Section 1 of the Data Protection Act 2018 and means data that relates to an individual who can be identified directly or indirectly from that data.

### **Response to Remaining questions**

#### **Caveats:**

Searches have been conducted by - 'First Arrest Date : Short Date' (filtered to show 01/01/2023 – 31/12/2023); 'Detainee : Date Of Birth' (filtered to only show offenders 16yo and under); 'Detainee : Surname'; 'Detainee : Forename'; 'Arrest : Arrest Circumstances'; 'Offence Classification : Offence Title'; 'Crime Initial Classification : Legislation' (filtered to show: Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 as amended by The Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 (amendment) Order 2008); 'Offence Classification : HO Code'.

Based on the results from the above search, the answer to the FOI are as follows:

Question 1 – Total 61

Question 2

Due to the low numbers returned the gender and class of drug have been split from each other as by providing all this information together would significantly increase the likelihood of identifying the individual(s) concerned, and as such the exemption under S40(2) – Personal Information, would be engaged and result in information being refused. By splitting this data it can be provided in its entirety.

| Gender | Total |
|--------|-------|
| Female | 3     |
| Male   | 57    |

| Gender  | Total |
|---------|-------|
| Class A | 1     |
| Class B | 59    |