



Date: 23/08/2024
Our ref: 01/FOI/24/012978/E

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/24/012978/E

I write in connection with your request for information dated 24/07/2024, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

1. The count of Property Items that were Stolen or Stolen & Recovered in any offence notifiable to the Home Office, for each of the following three Property Types:

- a. HB - Ornaments/objects d'art*
- b. PF - Art/Draw Materials*
- c. HH -Paintings/drawing/tapestry/embroidered wallhangings etc*

Please provide this information for 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024 to date (end of June), broken down by year.

2. Details of the top 10 most expensive items stolen each year across these categories (ie to limit the time, 10 in total not 10 in each category), including:

- a. Estimated cost/value of the item*
- b. Brief description of the stolen item*

3. If available, any details where a ransom was paid by the owner for the recovery of the item.

I would appreciate it if you could provide the information in a digital format, preferably as a spreadsheet or CSV file.

Result of Searches

Information relating to part one of your request is not held in an easily retrievable format, if it is indeed held at all. There is no centrally held record of the value of items of property that are held in our property stores, or if ransoms were paid. In order to provide such data would require

a manual search of the crime record associated with each item of property to establish if the item of property in our stores was recovered following a crime (as opposed to found property that has been handed in to a police station or items that have been seized by police as evidence), whether the value is recorded or if any ransom was paid.

In the years requested there were 188 items relevant to your request that entered our property stores. At a very conservative estimate of 10 minutes to locate, retrieve and review each file it would take approximately 30 hours to ascertain the data required.

To comply with the whole of your request the process would take over 18 hours' work and therefore exceeds the appropriate limit of £450.00, 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