

Date: 20th August 2024
Our ref: FOI/24/013049/C

I write in connection with your request for information dated 02/08/2024, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

Q1 How many instances of parcel theft (i.e. parcels stolen from somebody's doorstep, or other cases where thieves steal a package, for example by impersonating a delivery person or homeowner) were reported between the following dates? (NOTE: If the request will be too time-consuming, please share the most recent cases first)

- 01/08/2023 – 31/07/2024

Q2 If possible, can you share the number of reported instances of parcel theft (i.e. parcels stolen from somebody's doorstep, or other cases where thieves steal a package, for example by impersonating a delivery person or homeowner) by month for each of the date ranges provided in question one or, if this is not possible, any data that would make it possible to calculate this?

Q3 If possible, can you share either the total reported value of stolen parcels for the date ranges provided in question one or, if this is not possible, any data that would make it possible to calculate this?

Q4 If possible, can you share the most common time of day when parcels were stolen (using the date ranges provided in question one) in the following format, or, if not possible, any data that would make it possible to calculate this?

- A - 09.01 – 17.00
- B - 17.01 – 22.00
- C - 22.01 – 09.00

Q5 If possible, can you share the most common age of the people reporting theft (for the date ranges provided in question one) in the following format, or any data that would make it possible to calculate this?

- A - 21 and under

- **B - 22-34**
- **C - 35-44**
- **D - 45-54**
- **E - 55-64**
- **F - 65 and over**

Q6 If possible, can you estimate how long (hours per month) in total that your employees spent on any work relating to reported theft of parcels?

Q7 If possible, can you share the number of reports you received split by type of dwelling/address where the reported incident took place?

- Detached house or bungalow**
- Semi-detached or terraced house**
- Apartment/flat**
- Office/business**
- Any other**

If answering the above questions is not possible, could you please advise as to what relevant information would be attainable, or where the information might already exist in the public domain.

If this request is too wide or unclear, I would be grateful if you could contact me with advice as to what relevant information is attainable and what steps I need to take to receive it.

CLARIFICATION

Could you please include 'theft of a mailbag or postal packet' and 'general burglary/theft' in your searches. If possible could you please manually review these records to ascertain whether a parcel was stolen.

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 determine if a parcel was stolen would require a manual review of all records returned. A search of GMP's records shows 93,000 crimes recorded under 'theft offences' between the dates required. At a very conservative estimate of 5 minutes per record would take this request to in excess of 7,750 hours to ascertain the data required.

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