

Date: 18th December 2024
Our ref: FOI/24/013685/Y

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: FOI/24/013685/Y

I write in connection with your request for information dated 21/11/2024, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

Under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, please provide me with full answers to each of the following questions regarding your force's recording of Non Crime Hate Incidents (NCHI):

- 1. How many NCHIs were recorded in a) 2023 and b) 2024 to date?***
- 2. Of these, how many in a) 2023 and b) 2024 to date included personal data?***
- 3. How many NCHIs have been removed following appeals in a) 2023 and b) 2024 to date?***
- 4. On how many occasions in a) 2023 and b) 2024 were details of an NCHI disclosed for an enhanced criminal record certificate issued by the Disclosure and Barring Service?***
- 5. Please provide me with a copy of the log of all NCHI recorded in 2024 to date including a) a summary of the incident b) the ages of the complainant and alleged subject c) the protected characteristic involved d) the location***

Personal data can be removed.

If you have recently been asked for this data regarding the same dates please send me your response to earlier requests.

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, I am not obliged to supply you with all the information as an exemption applies to question 5a 'summary of the incident'.

The Freedom of Information Act is a piece of legislation designed to give the public access to information held by public authorities. It exists to make the decisions of those authorities transparent and to keep the populace better informed regarding matters which affect them.

A Public Authority is able to refuse requests which can divert resources away from more deserving requests and other public business or threaten to undermine the credibility of the freedom of information system. It is recognised that dealing with unreasonable requests can place a strain on resources and get in the way of delivering mainstream services.

When identifying potentially vexatious requests the indicators contained within the Information Commissioner's guidance on Section 14(1) should be considered. In this case we feel the following indicator applies specifically to question 5a of your request:

Burden on the Authority

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 14(1) of FOIA a request deemed as overly burdensome does not oblige GMP to comply with a request for information.

The ICO confirms within their guidance that they consider there to be a high threshold for refusing a request on such grounds if there is a viable case in line with the below recommendations:

- 1) The requester has asked for a substantial volume of information and
- 2) The authority has real concerns about potentially exempt information, which it will be able to substantiate if asked to do so by the ICO and
- 3) Any potentially exempt information cannot easily be isolated because it is scattered throughout the requested material.

As such question 5a summary of the incident is being refused due to the amount of time required to review and prepare the information for disclosure, which would impose a grossly oppressive burden on the organisation.

To provide the data requested for question 5a, would involve manual redactions to each piece of **data in the description field** as they do contain sensitive and personal information which could identify directly/indirectly a living human therefore Section 40(2) Personal Information will be engaged as this represents information that identifies a living individual, to disclose this information would breach the principles of the GDPR and the Data Protection Act 2018. Personal data is defined by Article 4 of the GDPR and Part 1 of the Data Protection Act 2018 and means any information relating to an identified or identifiable natural person ('data subject'). An identified natural person is one who can be identified directly or indirectly from that data.

The number of Non-Crime Hate Incidents is 851 therefore at a very conservative estimate of 5 minutes to review and redact each description field, it would take approximately 71 hours to ascertain the data required for question 5a.

For this reason, any further requests of this nature will be refused under Section 14(1) of the Act, which states that requests that are considered to be vexatious do not have to be complied with.

However, please see below for the results for all the other questions.

Caveats:

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.

- This data contains non-crime hate incidents with a created date between 1st January 2023 and 31st October 2024, excluding cancelled crimes. Further information about cancelled crimes can be obtained from the Home Office Counting Rules.
- Non-crime hate incidents may have more than one motivation e.g. race and religion. This means that the numbers for each motivation will add up to more than the total number of non-crime hate incidents.
- We are aware of various system issues affecting committed at locations for new and migrated crimes (see below for details). These issues mean that data for a specific location may include crimes that did not happen in that location and/or exclude crimes that did.
 - Some crimes do not have a beat code, which means that they cannot be mapped to other geographies e.g. districts.
 - Some crimes have an incorrect beat code, which means that they are mapped to the wrong geographies.
 - Some crimes do not have an address because e.g. the address has been recorded in a non-standard format or as map coordinates.
- We are aware of a system issue that allows more than one committed at address to be added to a crime, which is incorrect as stated in the Home Office Counting Rules. This issue affects 10 crimes in this response.
- According to the Home Office counting rules there is **not** supposed to be victims or offenders on non-crime incident records however the system allows them to be added so we have added what is on the system in terms of the victim/offender age, however, **please note that this is not correct.**
- Age has been calculated using the crime committed date and the person date of birth. Please note:
 - The crime committed date may be different to other dates e.g. reported or created.
 - The crime committed date may be recorded as a range where the crime occurred over a period of time or where it is not possible to say exactly when it occurred. In these cases, the first date in the range has been used for the calculation.
 - Age cannot be calculated where the crime committed date and/or person date of birth has not been recorded.
 - The calculated age may be incorrect where the person date of birth has been recorded incorrectly.
- There may be more than one suspect attached to a crime e.g. there are 2 rows for crime as there are 2 suspects attached. For this reason, the number of rows in the spreadsheet is not the same as the number of crimes. Suspects may be attached to more than one crime during this time period, which means that the data cannot be used to identify the number of unique suspects.
- Suspects have been included even if no action has been taken against them e.g. eliminated, insufficient evidence, wanted.

Question 1

Year	Total Number of NCHI
2023	667
2024	581

Question 2 – Cannot provide a response. We are unsure what you are referring to by 'included personal data' as all incidents reported to the force would include some aspect of personal data.

Question 3 – None.

Question 4 – None.

Question 5a – Exempt. Please see above.

Question 5b –

Please note the above caveats regarding this information not being correct.

Age Breakdown	Suspect	Victim
5 – 20	11	23
21 – 30	10	39
31 – 40	16	47
41 – 50	9	32
51 – 60	15	20
61 – 70	4	9
71 – 80	4	3
81 – 90	4	0
Blanks	190	89

Question 5c –

Protected Characteristic	Total
Disability	35
Racial	248
Religion	73
Sexual Orientation	90
Transgender	17
Blanks	26

Question 5d –

Location	Total
Bolton	28
Bury	52
CoM Central	74
CoM North	48
CoM South	42
Manchester Airport	2
Oldham	41
Rochdale	52
Salford	71
Stockport	37
Tameside	29
Trafford	51
Unknown	15
Wigan	38