



Date: 05/01/2024
Our ref: 01/FOI/23/011835/R

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/23/011835/R

I write in connection with your request for information dated 21/12/2023, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

1) In the calendar year 2023 up to the date of this email, how many crimes were logged by your force where the website Gumtree was recorded as being an element in the offence?

[Note: I would hope that this could be achieved by a computer search for recorded crimes looking at the modus operandi (MO) and/or 'investigation summary' fields for the word 'Gumtree', 'gum tree'.]

2) Please provide me with a table showing a breakdown of the crimes from Question 1 that are 'linked' to Gumtree by its mention in the MO and/or investigation summary field.

3) Please provide me with copies of the first 10 MOs and/or investigation summary fields that mention Gumtree.

[Note: To avoid falling into an exemption I am content for the names, ages, geography, or any other detail to be redacted to allow for the disclosure of the incident and how it relates to Gumtree.]

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 of the requested information as an 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. Where redactions occur in the below table, this is because the information is exempt from disclosure by virtue of the following exemptions: **Section 40(2)(a) – Personal Information.**

Where Section 40 has been used, 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.

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 crimes with a created date between 1st January 2023 and 21st December 2023 where the crime description or crime MO description contains 'gumtree' or 'gum tree', excluding cancelled crimes. Further information about cancelled crimes can be obtained from the Home Office Counting Rules. Please note:

- The keyword methodology does not account for spelling errors.
- The appearance of the keywords in the text fields does not necessarily mean that records are relevant to this request.

Reply

1. 30
- 2.

Dummy Crime Reference	Crime Latest Classification : HO 5 Digit Code	Crime Latest Classification : HO Offence Level
1	039/00	Theft from the person of another

2	034/01	Robbery - personal
3	044/00	Theft of a pedal cycle
4	195/94	Harassment
5	048/01	Theft of a motor vehicle
6	195/94	Harassment
7	049/10	Theft if not classified elsewhere
8	195/94	Harassment
9	125/09	Causing intentional harassment, alarm or distress

10	195/94	Harassment
11	008/72	Sending letters etc with intent to cause distress or anxiety
12	008/72	Sending letters etc with intent to cause distress or anxiety
13	048/01	Theft of a motor vehicle
14	053/40	Fraud by False Representation
15	195/94	Harassment
16	040/00	Theft in a dwelling other than from automatic machine or meter
17	048/01	Theft of a motor vehicle

18	125/09	Causing intentional harassment, alarm or distress
19	049/10	Theft if not classified elsewhere
20	195/94	Harassment
21	053/40	Fraud by False Representation
22	044/00	Theft of a pedal cycle
23	008/72	Sending letters etc with intent to cause distress or anxiety

24	008/72	Sending letters etc with intent to cause distress or anxiety
25	008/21	Owner or person in charge allowing dog to be dangerously out of control in any place in England and Wales (whether or not in a public place) injuring any person or assistance dog
26	049/10	Theft if not classified elsewhere
27	049/10	Theft if not classified elsewhere
28	045/10	Theft from a motor vehicle
29	008/72	Sending letters etc with intent to cause distress or anxiety
30	008/72	Sending letters etc with intent to cause distress or anxiety

3.

■■■■■ sells his iPad via Gumtree to ■■■■■. ■■■■■ turns up at ■■■■■ asking him to put his details into a phone App to transfer the funds to. ■■■■■ then states that he doesn't know the app and that the money hasn't transferred upon such time the offender snatches the iPad from ■■■■■ getting in to his veh and making off in an unknown direction.	Theft from a person , following a conversation over on gumtree ■■■■■ has sold his IPAD however once ■■■■■ has come to collect he has used a fake application and sent a message to say that the money has gone through when indeed it hasn't , ■■■■■ has then made off in his vehicle.
■■■■■ has approached ■■■■■ on foot whilst ■■■■■ was cycling through cemetery. ■■■■■ has pulled ■■■■■ off pedal cycle and ridden off on pedal cycle.	THEFT OF PEDAL CYCLE YESTERDAY ■■■■■ PEDAL CYCLE WAS TAKEN ■■■■■. TODAY ■■■■■ HAS SEEN IT ADVERTISED ON GUMTREE BY ■■■■■ WITH THE MUDGUARD TAKEN OFF OF IT. ■■■■■ HAS REPLIED TO THE ADVERTISEMENT AND ■■■■■ HAS TEXT BACK SAYING " I KNOW ITS YOU, IF YOU WANT YOUR BIKE BACK COME AND MEET US ■■■■■". ■■■■■ [Description continued in the logs...]
■■■■■ has walked round to the back of the property, through a ginnel and into a courtyard. ■■■■■ has then taken a pedal cycle and made off in an unknown direction.	THEFT OF BIKE ■■■■■ REPORTING THAT HIS BIKE HAS BEEN STOLEN FROM ■■■■■ IN THE PAST 45 MINUTES. ■■■■■ STATES THAT THE BIKE IS NOW FOR SALE ON GUMTREE, POSTED BY ■■■■■ FOR £60. ■■■■■ STATES BIKE IS ■■■■■
■■■■■ over the course of 6 days sends 30+ text messages and numerous phone calls to ■■■■■, causing ■■■■■ alarm and distress	■■■■■ - Harassment from ■■■■■ has placed an advert on Gum tree to sell a puppy which is a Cavapoo a male called ■■■■■ bought the puppy for £870 at ■■■■■ was issues with the paperwork and vaccinations which the puppy had, on ■■■■■ started messaging ■■■■■ and also called him saying the dog had not been vaccinated and that he was disputing what the breed to **Incident description is over 500 characters, please see ControlWorks incident**
	■■■■■ has advertised her car on gumtree, she has then been messaged off ■■■■■ regarding purchasing the car, they have come to test drive the car and

	have no returned it and she has received no payment for the vehicle.
██████████ HAS BEEN HARASSING HER BY SENDING HER CONTACT NUMBER OUT AND MESSAGING HER ABUSE.	██████████ I have had threatening messages, he has also rang yous maliciously due to controlling behaviour he has now been sending me loads of messages giving me abuse, he has also messaged ██████████ due to me not replying to the texts, he has also put ██████████ on gumtree so i get loads of calls
██████████ has agreed to purchase a phone off ██████████, when ██████████ met up with ██████████ to collect the phone, ██████████ has used a fake bank app to make it look as though he has sent the money over for the phone, ██████████ has then made off with the phone and when ██████████ later checked his bank there was no money that had been sent for this.	██████████ - stolen phone ██████████ reporting he has gone to sell his phone on gumtree, he has met ██████████ on ██████████. ██████████ has then gave him the phone and ██████████ has not paid for this and made off with same.
██████████ provides ██████████ details to ██████████ as a contact for ██████████. ██████████ repeatedly calls ██████████ from a number at ██████████.	██████████ HARRASMENT FEMALE REPORTS SHE IS BEING HARRASSED BY ██████████ WHO SHE INITIALLY SPOKE TO VIA GUM TREE FOR THE SALE OF HER KITTENS - AFTER SHE MET HIM SHE WAS CONCERNED DUE TO HIS BEHAVIOUR/ VERY AGAITATED, EXCITED, ANRRY AND PARANOID - ON THE BACK OF THIS ██████████ CONTACTED HER TO ASK IF ██████████ TO ██████████ WHICH SHE HAS SAID NO AND WAS SURPRISED - NOW SHE KEEPS GETTING CALLS FROM ██████████ [Description continued in the logs...]
██████████ has arranged to sell his vehicle to ██████████ via Gumtree. ██████████ have turned up to buy the vehicle with cash despite it being agreed it would be direct debit. The agreed price was £2800 however ██████████ gave ██████████ £2500 and had already put down a £50 deposit. This has then caused an altercation between ██████████ and ██████████. ██████████ gets into his vehicle and ██████████ begin to shout and swear at ██████████ and state 'we know where you live' which causes ██████████ to feel alarmed and	██████████ ISSUES WITH VEHICLE/AGGRESSIVE MALES Occurred approx 10 mins ago. ██████████ has arranged to sell his vehicle via Gumtree. ██████████ have turned up to buy the vehicle with cash despite it being agreed it would be direct debit. The agreed price was £2800 however ██████████ gave ██████████ £2500 and had already put down a £50 deposit. This has then caused an altercation between ██████████ and ██████████. ██████████ have since left.

distressed. [REDACTED] then make off in an unknown direction	
[REDACTED] has followed a course of conduct by calling and texting [REDACTED] multiple times, threatening to come to her house and demanding money.	threats [REDACTED] was selling a car on gumtree and [REDACTED] wanted to come and view it. [REDACTED] had already sold the vehicle so she contacted him back and he was not happy and hes rang [REDACTED] 30 times, he is threatening her to come to their door and demand money from them. [REDACTED] she is worried that he will come to the address and damage her or her property. he said he is coming from **Incident description is over 500 characters, please see ControlWorks incident**

