

Our ref: 01/FOI/24/011866/T

Please quote our reference  
number when responding

Monday, 22 January 2024

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/24/011866/T**

I write in connection with your request for information dated 02/01/2024, I note you seek access to the following information:

*1.Number of incidents involving a crossbow in your territory from 1st Jan 2012 -to 31st December 2023 broken down by calendar year. If this isn't possible, please state timeframe data relates to.*

*2.Of the number of incidents in each year, how many caused harm or injury to people (not including death)*

*3.Of the number of incidents in each year, how many resulted in death of a person*

*4.Please specify how many charges of a) murder, b) manslaughter, and c) assault / GBH or similar whereby a person was injured were made in each year for incidents involving a crossbow on a person*

**Result of Searches**

Following receipt of your request searches were conducted within Greater Manchester Police to locate information relevant to your request. I can confirm that the information you have requested is held by Greater Manchester Police.

**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. Any data provided for this request is subject to change as crimes are progressed and/or updated.

- The data for this request is based on a search of all crime types recorded between 01/01/2012 and 31/12/2023 inclusive. As there are no flags that highlight whether a crossbow was used as part of the crime, we have done a keyword search on the 'crime description' field using the key words 'crossbow' and 'cross bow'.
- This returned then broken down by calendar year.
- Management of Police Information regulations state that non-essential records should be removed from police systems six financial years after the year in which they were originally created. This means that data that is more than six financial years old may be incomplete and should not be compared to more recent data.

The information below has been exempted 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 1998 and means data that relates to an individual who can be identified directly or indirectly from that data.

Part 2 – Yearly breakdown. I have provided total for each 3 years instead.

Part 4 – Crime type breakdown. I provided total charge outcome for each year instead.

In accordance with the Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, this letter acts as a Refusal Notice for the particular pieces of information.

Please see the remainder of the requested information below:

## Response

### **Part 1**

| <b>Year</b> | <b>Count of Crimes</b> |
|-------------|------------------------|
| 2012        | 7                      |
| 2013        | 5                      |
| 2014        | 10                     |
| 2015        | 10                     |
| 2016        | 12                     |
| 2017        | 21                     |
| 2018        | 27                     |
| 2019        | 13                     |
| 2020        | 23                     |
| 2021        | 16                     |

|      |    |
|------|----|
| 2022 | 31 |
| 2023 | 25 |

**Part 2** - From the above 200 crimes, I have included a breakdown of the crime types. None of these crimes resulted in the death of a person.

| <b>Crime Type</b>         | <b>2012-14</b> | <b>2015-17</b> | <b>2018-20</b> | <b>2021-23</b> |
|---------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Burglary                  | 0              | 3              | 3              | 1              |
| Criminal Damage and Arson | 5              | 6              | 9              | 7              |
| Possession of Drugs       | 0              | 1              | 1              | 0              |
| Possession of Weapon      | 4              | 9              | 19             | 28             |
| Public Order              | 6              | 7              | 12             | 7              |
| Rape                      | 0              | 0              | 1              | 0              |
| Robbery                   | 1              | 2              | 3              | 0              |
| Stalking and Harassment   | 0              | 3              | 1              | 13             |
| Theft                     | 1              | 1              | 1              | 1              |
| Vehicle Offences          | 0              | 2              | 0              | 0              |
| Violence with Injury      | 2              | 2              | 9              | 5              |
| Violence without Injury   | 3              | 7              | 4              | 10             |

**Part 3** - None of these crimes resulted in the death of a person

**Part 4** - 45 cases have currently concluded with a charge.

| <b>Year</b> | <b>Count of Crimes</b> |
|-------------|------------------------|
| 2012        | 3                      |
| 2013        | 1                      |
| 2014        | 4                      |
| 2015        | 2                      |
| 2016        | 2                      |
| 2017        | 6                      |
| 2018        | 5                      |
| 2019        | 1                      |
| 2020        | 6                      |
| 2021        | 1                      |
| 2022        | 8                      |
| 2023        | 6                      |