

Date: 23/07/2024

Our ref: 01/FOI/24/012969/D

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/24/012969/D

I write in connection with your request for information dated 22/07/2024, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

- 1. The total number of car thefts reported within your police force area for the last five calendar years (2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, and 2023). I do not require information on all vehicle thefts, just passenger cars.***
- 2. Please could you also split this data by make and model of each stolen car, and by the colour of each stolen car, where available.***

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, GMP does not hold the information that you have requested in an easily retrievable format.

GMP are unable to respond to this request without completing a manual review of all the vehicle offences over the last 5 years. Initial searches have provided over 127,000 results that each need checking to understand how many relate to thefts of cars, make and models and colour of the vehicle if recorded. Due to the large number of reviews required this request would most definitely exceed the 18hrs permitted to provide the information.

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 you are requesting will need revising to a considerably shorter time frame and a reduction in the volume of information required. With any request that requires a manual review there is always a chance of a request being refused under S12 due to the enormity of work that is usually needed to provide the data, therefore 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.