



Date: 14/06/2024
Our ref: 01/FOI/24/012696/X

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/24/012696/X

I write in connection with your request for information dated 28/05/2024, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

The number of people aged 18 or under who have been victim to either a confirmed or suspected spiking incident. I would like this information broken down by the following, where that information is available:

- A. Age
- B. Gender
- C. Suspected method of spiking, e.g. vaping or drink or needle
- D. Date of the incident

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 provide all the information requested as 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.

Section 40 is an absolute exemption with no requirement to complete a public interest test.

The exact date of each incident 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 2018 and means data that relates to an individual who can be identified directly or indirectly from that data.

CAVEATS

Data has been provided for the period 01/04/2019 to 31/03/2024.

Crimes searched using HO Codes 005/10, 008/02 & 088/05.

Years searched are financial years from April 1st to March 31st.

Ages have been placed into groups as there were too many crimes to display each age individually.

The date used is the crime committed date and not the crime recorded date.

Where possible duplicates have been removed.

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.

Question A and B

Due to low numbers being returned, some of the age totals have been replaced with X, as by providing all this information split by ages as you have requested would significantly increase the likelihood of identifying the individual(s) concerned, and as such the exemption under S40(2) – Personal Information, would be engaged and result in information being refused. By replacing this data in this way, it can be provided in its entirety.

Year	Total Number of Incidents
2019/20	24
2020/21	22
2021/22	96
2022/23	86
2023/24	92
Total	320

Gender & Age							
01 Apr-31 Mar	Gender-Male	Gender-Female	Gender-Missing	Age 0-5	Age 6-10	Age 11-15	Age 16-18
2019-2020	11	13	0	5	0	12	7
2020-2021	10	10	2	5	x	x	12
2021-2022	10	79	7	x	x	17	75
2022-2023	24	56	6	x	x	17	66
2023-2024	29	62	1	0	0	14	78

Question C

Due to the low numbers returned, the method has been merged together as by providing all this information split by year as you have requested would significantly increase the likelihood of identifying the individual(s) concerned, and as such the exemption under S40(2) – Personal Information, would be engaged and result in information being refused. By merging this data it can be provided in its entirety.

Method	Total
Drink	138
Food	18
On Body	7
Drugs	23
Inhaler	X
Vape	12
Injection	39
Unknown	73
Tablets	X
Medication	X
Recorded in Error	5