

Date: 13th June 2024
Our ref: FOI/24/012669/U

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: FOI/24/012669/U

I write in connection with your request for information dated 22/05/2024, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

Revised from 01/FOI/24/012551/H

This is not good for me, the offence codes you link me do not correlate well to the information I am interested in obtaining. I have no use for just some warrant statistics on for example 'Offences against the person' as well you know this can encompass a lot of unrelated actions, completely outside of the realm of the occult.

I require information on incidents where GMP gets involved in incidents relating to occult practices, witchcraft, ceremonial magic, black magic, you know... What use is some random generic offence codes to me?

So, how we can scope this down so you provide something useful for me? I can make request by reduced timeframe if this works good by all? And then keyword searches, based upon my aforementioned list. If we make for a smaller 6 month period November 2023 - April 2024, there won't be so much data for you to review, so we can do this within limits & everyone is a happy, yes?

Let me know this revised request is a working Adam, for is very important to me we have a good picture on the occult activities that are occurring in Manchester.

CLARIFICATION

To clarify, I am looking for the total number of incidents and crimes where any of the listed keywords are mentioned within the description.

For the time period, yes, it should cover November 2023 to April 2024.

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.

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.

Crime:

- This data contains crimes with a created date between 01/11/2023 and 30/04/2024 where the crime description or crime MO description contains 'occult practices', 'witchcraft', 'ceremonial magic', or 'black magic', 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, e.g., 'Black Magic chocolates'.

Incidents:

- This data contains incidents with a created date between 01/01/2023 and 30/04/2024 where the title, details or contact comments contains 'occult practices', 'witchcraft', 'ceremonial magic', or 'black magic', excluding incidents with a closing code of L10 Duplicate, L19 Error or L22 Test or training.
 - 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, e.g., 'Black Magic chocolates'.

	Crime	Incident
Count	15	69