

Date: 22/02/2024
Our ref: 01/FOI/24/012101/L

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/24/012101/L

I write in connection with your request for information dated 07/02/2024, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

I would like to know about the total number of shoplifting offences occurring at supermarkets/hypermarkets/grocers for the calendar years of 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023.

Of this information, I would also like to know how many times shoplifting offences include any of these keywords in CRIS logs: nappies, baby formula, and/or butter.

Please could the information be provided in either an Excel sheet or PDF format, with information broken down by year (i.e. columns of a table) and by the presence of each keyword given above (i.e. rows of a table).

Clarification

Please could the following MO keywords be used for my request:

***Shop - Chemist,
Shop - Supermarket
Shop - Maternity
Shop - Superstore***

Would it be possible to have each of these categories outlined with a breakdown by calendar year. Within these results is it possible to conduct a 'wildcard'/keyword search of 'nappy'/'nappies', 'baby formula'/'baby food' and 'butter' to each MO category above?

Please could the total number of shoplifting offences for the specified timeframe in my request (2018-2023/latest available) also be provided that would be fantastic too!

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.

- This data contains crimes with a created date between 01/01/2018 and 31/12/2023, where the MO sub category is one of the below, excluding cancelled crimes. Further information about cancelled crimes can be obtained from the Home Office Counting Rules
 - Chemist
 - Supermarket
 - Maternity
 - Superstore
- We have added flags for 'nappy', 'nappies', 'butter', 'baby formula', and 'baby food'. These are defined by whether the crime MO or crime MO description contains the relevant words/phrases. Please note:
 - The keyword methodology does not account for spelling errors.
- MO keywords (MO subcategory) are only available for new and migrated crimes.
 - There can be more than one MO keyword attached to a crime. For this reason, the number of rows in the spreadsheet is not the same as the number of crimes.
 - The MO keywords are not mandatory and may not be completed therefore there may be records missing
- 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.

Year	MO Subcategory	Subcategory Totals	Total MO mentions of NAPPY	Total MO mentions of NAPPIES	Total MO mentions of BUTTER	Total MO mentions of BABY FORMULA	Total MO mentions of BABY FOOD
2019	Chemist	59	0	0	0	0	0
	Supermarket	435	0	0	0	0	0
	Superstore	45	0	0	0	0	0
2020	Chemist	84	0	0	0	0	1
	Supermarket	700	0	1	3	1	0
	Superstore	37	0	0	0	0	0
2021	Chemist	157	0	1	0	0	0
	Supermarket	1389	0	1	1	0	0
	Superstore	103	0	0	0	0	0
	Maternity	1	0	0	0	0	0
2022	Chemist	217	0	2	0	1	1
	Supermarket	2649	0	3	13	2	2
	Superstore	238	0	0	2	0	0
	Maternity	1	0	0	0	0	0
2023	Chemist	174	1	4	0	1	0
	Supermarket	3113	0	3	45	0	2
	Superstore	720	0	0	10	0	0

Calendar Year Number	Total number of crimes (shop lifting)
2019	17377
2020	12636
2021	13051
2022	15865
2023	18230