

Date: 14/03/2024
Our ref: 01/FOI/24/012197/J

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/24/012197/J

I write in connection with your request for information dated 22/02/2024, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

I am currently researching reported knife crime within the Greater Manchester area and was looking for some data/statistics of this between 2020-2023.

Ideally showing by district and in particular for the Wigan area if possible?

1. *How many knife crime offences were recorded in GMP by division between 2020 – 2023, split by year.*
2. *Please can these be broken down by victim and suspect age, ethnicity, gender, crime outcome etc.*
3. *Also would it be possible to get the crime MO's of each crime for the first ten crimes in Wigan.*

I am trying to get the above information as part of a project I working on for my diploma and would really appreciate if you could offer me some support with this.

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.

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 knife crimes as defined by the ADR 160 with created dates between 1st January 2020 and 31st December 2023, excluding cancelled crimes. Further information about cancelled crimes can be obtained from the Home Office Counting Rules.

Our knife crime data currently only goes up to the end of September 2023 as the system used to identify knife crimes is currently being investigated for accuracy. We believe there may be crimes missing from 2023 due to this issue.

We are aware of various PoliceWorks issues affecting committed at locations for new and migrated crimes (see below for details). These issues mean that data for a specific location may include crimes that did not happen in that location and/or exclude crimes that did.

- Some crimes do not have a beat code, which means that they cannot be mapped to other geographies e.g. districts.
- Some crimes have an incorrect beat code, which means that they are mapped to the wrong geographies.

A crime outcome of 'Missing Value' means that the investigation is ongoing and an outcome has not yet been applied.

Age has been calculated using the crime committed date and the person date of birth.

Please note:

- The crime committed date may be different to other dates e.g. reported or created.
- The crime committed date may be recorded as a range where the crime occurred over a period of time or where it is not possible to say exactly when it occurred. In these cases, the first date in the range has been used for the calculation.
- Age cannot be calculated where the crime committed date and/or person date of birth has not been recorded.
- The calculated age may be incorrect where the person date of birth has been recorded incorrectly.

There may be more than one suspect attached to a crime e.g. there are 2 rows for crime number 11 as there are 2 suspects attached. For this reason, the number of rows in the spreadsheet is not the same as the number of crimes. Suspects may be attached to more than one crime during this time period, which means that the data cannot be used to identify the number of unique suspects.

Suspects have been included even if no action has been taken against them e.g. eliminated, insufficient evidence, wanted.

There are crimes in this response with no victim attached. These may be state based crimes (which do not need a victim), crimes where the victim has not been identified, or they may be PoliceWorks errors.

Please see the attached spreadsheet or the requested information. Modus Operandi have been included for ten of the Wigan crimes, as requested. N/A has been entered into this column for all other crimes.