

Date: 8th May 2024
Our ref: FOI/24/012468/N

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: FOI/24/012468/N

I write in connection with your request for information dated 15/04/2024, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

How many times by year have GMP opened investigations into an electoral offense regarding registration since the Representation Of the People Act came into force in 1983?

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 before 17th April 2024, excluding cancelled crimes, where the offence was listed under an act that contained the phrase 'Representation of the People Act 1983'. Further information about cancelled crimes can be obtained from the Home Office Counting Rules.
- 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.
- Some offences may only be available for part of this time period i.e. they may have started or stopped being used during this period.

Due to the low numbers returned per year the totals have 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.

The data below is from 1st January 2003 to 17th April 2024.

	099/05 Bribery, treating and undue influence	099/06 Impersonation
Total	11	178