



Date: 21/11/2024
Our ref: 01/FOI/24/013566/S

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/24/013566/S

I write in connection with your request for information dated 27/11/2024, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

Under the Freedom of Information Act, please could I be provided with the following information for the Christmas/New year period (December and January) in your local policing area in 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023:

- 1. The total number of burglary cases reported to your force, broken down by Local Policing Area.*
- 2. The number of burglary cases where something was stolen and there's clear evidence entry was forced, broken down by Local Policing Area.*
- 3. The number of burglary cases where the something was stolen but entry was not forced/violent and therefore the case was dropped, broken down by Local Policing Area.*

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 GMP does not hold the information that you have requested in an easily retrievable format. To provide the data requested in questions 2 and 3 would involve a manual search all burglary records from the months of December and January between your specified years.

GMP publish monthly and borough breakdowns of burglaries. From this it can be seen that in the months of January 2020, December 2020, January 2021, December 2021, January 2022, December 2022, January 2023 and December 2023 there were 15,184 residential and business burglaries that would have to be reviewed manually. At a very conservative estimate of 5 minutes to locate, retrieve and review each file it would take approximately 1,265 hours to ascertain the data required.

Therefore, to comply with the whole of your request the process would take over 18 hours' work which exceeds the appropriate limit of £450.00, the amount to which we are legally required to respond.

As per section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the cost of providing you with the information is therefore above the amount to which we are legally required to respond i.e. the cost of locating and retrieving the information exceeds the 'appropriate level' as stated in the Freedom of Information (Fees and Appropriate Limit) Regulations 2004.

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000, this letter acts as a Refusal Notice.

GMP is obligated, pursuant to section 16(1) of the Act to provide you with advice and assistance on refining your request to bring compliance within the fees limit. In order for the force to keep this within the fees limit, the information that you are requesting will need to be reduced to a greatly reduced time period. The resulting response cannot be guaranteed at this point as it will be dependent upon the number of records that fall within the scope of any new request, as they would still have to be manually assessed.

Should you wish to refine and resubmit your request in line with the advice above please respond to freedomofinformation@gmp.police.uk