

Date: 13/11/2024
Our ref: 01/FOI/24/013623/K

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/24/013623/K

I write in connection with your request for information dated 12/11/2024, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

- 1. *Monthly totals January 2020 to December 2023:***
 - a. *Van thefts***
 - b. *Tool thefts from vehicles***
- 2. *Postcodes of all the above thefts***
- 3. *Total value of tools stolen***
- 4. *Number of tools recovered and returned***

Format: CSV or Excel via email.

If unable to provide all within cost limits, prioritise points 1 and 2.

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.

However, GMP does not hold the information that you have requested in an easily retrievable format.

Due to the way in which these types of reports are recorded on our systems, GMP cannot provide a response to this request without carrying out a manual review of all the 'Theft or Unauthorised Taking of Motor Vehicle' offences that occurred within the requested time period for part 1a. Initial searches have revealed over 29,000 logs and each one will need to be reviewed to understand how many relate to "Van Theft". Following on from this, a further assessment will be needed to be able to locate and provide the breakdowns for parts 2/3/4. Given the enormous task to be able to provide the information requested, I can confidently advise it will not be able to be completed within the 18hr permitted.

Therefore, as per **section 12(1)** of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the cost of providing you with the information is 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 you are requesting will need revising with a much shorter timeframe. In addition, due to a manual review being required to understand in the theft was Van, car, bike related etc, it may be worth requesting the total number of 'Theft or Unauthorised Taking of Motor Vehicle' totals only for your chosen time periods. However, 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.