

Date: 25th October 2024
Our ref: FOI/24/013430/D

I write in connection with your request for information dated 10/10/2024, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

I've rephrased the request for best understanding. Hopefully this is clearer:

1. The number of incident reports, recorded on the STORM Command-and-Control System from 09/10/2022 to 09/10/2024, which contain both of the words 'deepfake' and 'porn'/pornography' or the phrases 'intimate image abuse' or 'revenge porn' within the text of the log. Please then review any returned logs for relevance to ascertain whether there is a 'deepfake' element as set out in my definition below at *.

a. Please can you share this data with me broken down by month.

2. The number of crimes, recorded on the Crime Recording System from 09/10/2022 to 09/10/2024, which contain the both the words 'deepfake' and 'porn'/pornography'. Please then review any returned crimes for relevance to ascertain whether there is a 'deepfake' element as set out in my definition below at *.

a. Please can you share this data with me broken down by month.

b. Please can you provide a breakdown of the type of crime and the outcome.

c. Please can you provide a breakdown of the gender and the ages of the victim's and suspects.

***By 'deepfake pornography' I refer to 'synthetic pornography that is created via altering already-existing photographs or video by applying deepfake technology to the images of the participants' often non-consensually, the products of which can sometimes be used as revenge porn.**

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 determine if 'deepfake' is an element of an incident all incident records would need to be manually reviewed. An initial search conducted of GMP's records shows a total of 423 incidents where 'revenge porn' is the keyword mentioned. At a very conservative estimate of 10 minutes per record would take this request to in excess of 70.5 hours to ascertain the data required.

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 that you are requesting will need to be reduced to a much shorter time period and a reduction in the volume of questions asked. 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

Although excess costs remove GMP's obligations under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, as a gesture of goodwill I have supplied some information relative to your request that was retrieved before it was realised that the fees limit would be exceeded (see below information). I hope that this is of use to you, but it does not affect our legal right to rely on the fees regulations for the remainder of your request.

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.

Crimes: This data contains crimes with a created date between 09/10/2022 and 09/10/2024 where the crime description or crime MO description contains both 'deepfake' and 'porn' excluding cancelled crimes. Further information about cancelled crimes can be obtained from the Home Office Counting Rules. Please note:

- The keyword methodology does not account for spelling errors.
- The appearance of the keywords in the text fields does not necessarily mean that records are relevant to this request.

Incidents: This data contains incidents with a created date between 09/10/2022 and 09/10/2024 where the title, details or contact comments contains 'deepfake' and 'porn', 'intimate image abuse' and 'revenge porn', excluding incidents with a closing code of L10 Duplicate, L19 Error or L22 Test or training. Please note:

- The keyword methodology does not account for spelling errors.
- The appearance of the keywords in the text fields does not necessarily mean that records are relevant to this request.

There were 0 crimes which returned from the search and while we do not use STORM as our incident recording system we have searched our incident data for the requested terms. There were 0 recorded for both 'deepfake' and 'porn' (this will also cover 'pornography').