

Date: 25/11/2024
Our ref: 01/FOI/24/013663/S

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/24/013663/S

I write in connection with your request for information dated 19/11/2024, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

I would like to know information regarding abandoned vehicles in Shaw and Crompton (Oldham)

- 1. I want to ask how many abandoned stolen vehicles have been found/recovered in Shaw and Crompton in the past 2 calendar years.***
- 2. Also, if able, to know how many cars have been reported as stolen from people living in Shaw and Crompton in the past 2 calendar years.***

Many thanks for your help in advance.

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 some of the information that you have requested in an easily retrievable format.

It would require a manual review to be completed for question 1 of this request as the information is not held on our systems in a easily retrievable manner. GMP would need to review all the reports of 'Theft or Unauthorised Taking of Motor Vehicle' over the past 2 years to see if the MO description states that the stolen vehicle was found abandoned within the Shaw and Crompton area. In the last 2 years there have been over 12,000 results located and to review each one of these would take this request beyond the 18hrs permitted to respond.

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 the removal of question 1. 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.

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 fee's 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.

- This data contains crimes with a beat of either 'Shaw' or 'Crompton' within Oldham district, with a created date between 01/01/2023 and 19/11/2024, where the HO offence group is 'Theft or Unauthorised Taking of Motor Vehicle', excluding cancelled crimes. Further information about cancelled crimes can be obtained from the Home Office Counting Rules.
- A manual review has been conducted and the data provided is what our systems clearly states is a "car" stolen from the MO description. Therefore, this should not be relied upon for comparison reasons

1. See exemption above.
2. 47 known cars.