



Date: 04/10/2024
Our ref: 01/FOI/24/013242/B

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/24/013242/B

I write in connection with your request for information dated 10/09/2024, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

1. How many crimes were reported in Greater Manchester involving zombie knives/zombie-style knives/machetes in the last three years? (Since 2021 - up to and including any data held for 2024)

2) Of those, how many involved youths (under 18)?

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.

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 between 01/01/2021 and 31/07/2024 where the crime description or crime MO description contains "zombie-style kni", "zombie kni" or "machete", 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.

- Police officer understanding of what constitutes a zombie knife or a machete in previous years is inconsistent with what the definition of such knives now is. Therefore there will be knives within these figures which have been mis-identified.

Age has been calculated using the crime committed date and the person date of birth. Please note:

- The crime committed date may be different to other dates e.g. reported or created.
- The crime committed date may be recorded as a range where the crime occurred over a period of time or where it is not possible to say exactly when it occurred. In these cases, the first date in the range has been used for the calculation.
- Age cannot be calculated where the crime committed date and/or person date of birth has not been recorded.
- The calculated age may be incorrect where the person date of birth has been recorded incorrectly.
- There may be more than one suspect attached to a crime Suspects may be attached to more than one crime during this time period, which means that the data cannot be used to identify the number of unique suspects.
- Suspects have been included even if no action has been taken against them e.g. eliminated, insufficient evidence, wanted.
- There are crimes in this response with no victim attached. These may be state based crimes (which do not need a victim), crimes where the victim has not been identified, or they may be errors.
- A person may be a victim on one crime and an offender on another crime within these datasets. The victim and offender references do not account for this as they are separate datasets.

Crime Created on Date : Calendar Year Number	Count of Crimes	Victims Under 18	Suspects/Offenders under 18
2021	1044	105	194
2022	1227	155	245
2023	1205	189	280
2024	721	109	211