

Date: 06/09/2024
Our ref: 01/FOI/24/013183/H

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/24/013183/H

I write in connection with your request for information dated 28/08/2024, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

In a press release on the 28th August 2024 -

<https://gbr01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.gmp.police.uk%2Fnews%2Fgreater-manchester%2Fnews%2Fnews%2F2024%2Faugust%2Fman-jailed-for-firearms-offences-after-proactive-traffic-stop-unravels-criminal-web-of-lies%2F&data=05%7C02%7CFreedomOfInformation%40gmp.police.uk%7Cd3aada70f36549efb5d308dcc787a8fb%7Cdc8a542c40d46ab8f73e6023f45c7c5%7C0%7C0%7C638604632791413751%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWljoIMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6IjEhaWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=xj6VM6h8I7ySJp37%2B5MC8aA7FJk4vPEAwjZB6O47SKk%3D&reserved=0> - the following statistic is given:

“Greater Manchester Police continue to lead the way with firearms recoveries in the region. Between 2020 and 2023, Greater Manchester Police recovered more firearms than any other force in the Northwest, accounting for 58% of all firearms recoveries in the region.”

Are you able to provide more information in relation to the following:

- 1. To what does ‘any other force in the Northwest’ refer?***
- 2. What type of firearms are included within this statistic - e.g., lethal barrellled, imitation etc?***
- 3. Are you able to provide the raw figure that 58% equates to?***
- 4. What exact date periods do these recoveries cover?***

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.

1. "Any other Force in the North West" refers to those Police Forces, in the North West of the UK, who make up the North West Regional Organised Crime Unit – Greater Manchester Police, Merseyside Police, Lancashire Constabulary, Cheshire Constabulary, Cumbria Police and North Wales Police.
2. The firearms included in the statistic are 'viable firearms' - lethal barrelled weapons and shotguns and not imitations.
3. 250 Firearms were recovered by GMP out of a total of 432 recovered by the 6 Forces who make up the North West Regional Organised Crime Unit so 57.87%.
4. The data includes the 2020/21 financial year, the 2021/2022 financial year and the 2022/2023 financial year.

This is the last three full finance years up to the point the report was produced and shared with forces