

Date: 1st April 2025
Our ref: FOI/25/014439/P

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: FOI/25/014439/P

I write in connection with your request for information dated 19/03/2025, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

***I am writing to make a request under the Freedom of Information Act.
Please could you provide me with the following information, in Excel spreadsheet form if possible:***

How many reports were made to your police force that included the phrase 'hare coursing' in the following calendar years: 2024, 2023 and 2022.

Please could you confirm receipt of this request, and let me know if you require any further clarification.

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.

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 incidents with a created date between '01/01/2022' and '31/12/2024' where the title, details or contact comments contains 'hare coursing' 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.

Due to low numbers returned the totals have been merged as by providing all this information split by year as you have requested would significantly increase the likelihood of identifying the individual(s) concerned, and as such the exemption under S40(2) – Personal Information, would be engaged and result in information being refused. By merging this data, it can be provided in its entirety.

The total number of incidents returned is 3.

COMPLAINT RIGHTS

Are you unhappy with how your request has been handled or do you think the decision is incorrect?

You have the right to require Greater Manchester Police to review their decision.

Prior to lodging a formal complaint you are welcome and encouraged to discuss the decision with the case officer that dealt with your request.

Ask to have the decision looked at again –

The quickest and easiest way to have the decision looked at again is to telephone the case officer that is nominated at the end of your decision letter.

That person will be able to discuss the decision, explain any issues and assist with any problems.

Complaint

If you are dissatisfied with the handling procedures or the decision of Greater Manchester Police made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 regarding access to information, you can lodge a complaint with Greater Manchester Police to have the decision reviewed.

Complaints should be made in writing and addressed to:

Information Compliance & Records Management Unit Manager
Information Services Branch
Greater Manchester Police
Openshaw Complex
Lawton Street
Openshaw
Manchester
M11 2NS

The Information Commissioner

After lodging a complaint with Greater Manchester Police if you are still dissatisfied with the decision, you can make an application to the Information Commissioner for a decision on whether the request for information has been dealt with in accordance with the requirements of the Act.

For information on how to make an application to the Information Commissioner please visit their website at [FOI and EIR complaints | ICO](#).