

Date: 17th April 2025
Our ref: FOI/25/014602/I

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: FOI/25/014602/I

I write in connection with your request for information dated 14/04/2025, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

I am writing under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request information regarding two questions:

- 1. The number of reported incidents of:**
 - a) Rape or attempted rape (Section 1 of the Sexual Offences Act)**
 - b) Sexual assault by penetration (Section 2 of the Sexual Offences Act)**
 - c) Sexual assault (Section 3 of the Sexual Offences Act)**
 - d) Stalking (Section 2 of the Protection from Harassment Act)**
 - e) Harassment (Section 2a of the Protection from Harassment Act)**

where the free text associated with the incident report contains any of the following the words:

'online dating', 'internet dating', 'tinder', 'bumble', 'feeld', 'match.com', 'hinge', 'eharmony', 'dating app' or 'plenty of fish'

We would like this information for 1 Jan 2024 to 31 December 2024 (1 year), or the most recent 12 month period available.

- 1. 2. Of all the reported incidents of sexual assault, rape, and stalking (etc) made to your constabulary in the most recent 12-month period, what proportion involved cases where the victim first met or connected with the perpetrator through a dating app?**

We are collating this data from all police forces in the country for a broadcast project on rape and sexual assaults linked to dating apps and are on quite a tight deadline so would be great to have it ASAP.

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.

1. The Recorded Crimes Grand Total is the volume of crimes for the period 01/01/2024-31/12/2024.
2. Recorded Crimes were searched using Home Office Codes 008/66, 008/24, 017/13, 017/14, 017/15, 017/16, 019/07, 019/08, 019/09, 019/10, 019/11, 019/12, 019/13, 019/14, 019/16, 019/17, 019/18, 019/19, 020/03, 020/04, 020/05, 020/06.
3. Where possible duplicates have been removed.
4. The data is based on the date the crime was created and not when the crime was committed.
5. In order to establish if the crime involved the following 'online dating', 'internet dating', 'tinder', 'bumble', 'feeld', 'match.com', 'hinge', 'eharmony', 'dating app' or 'plenty of fish', a key word search was carried out in Crime MO Data
6. When filtered for key words MO was then manually searched for non key words i.e. "hinges", "unhinged", "dating" etc. These were then removed

Jan 1st-Dec 31st 2024	Recorded Crimes	Recorded Crimes- using Key Words	Proportion through dating app
Rape or attempted rape	4,157	21	0.5%
Sexual assault by penetration	553	3	0.5%
Sexual assault	4,194	3	0.1%
Stalking	10,082	37	0.4%
Harassment	22,395	35	0.2%
Total	41,381	99	1.6%