

Date: 24th April 2025
Our ref: FOI/25/014497/Z

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: FOI/25/014497/Z

I write in connection with your request for information dated 31/03/2025, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

- 1. What department currently deals with allegations of wildlife crime within your force?***
- 2. How many officers/staff are currently employed by your force?***
- 3. How many incidents of wildlife crime (including but not limited to hunting, baiting, wildlife disturbance, poaching, illegal fishing, egg theft, offences against badgers, bats, birds of prey) have been reported to the force within the last 5 years?***
- 4. How many incidents of wildlife crime resulted in a charge for the suspect within the last 5 years?***
- 5. How many incidents of wildlife crime resulted in a conviction within the last 5 years?***
- 6. How many incidents of wildlife crime resulted in Proceeds of Crime Act penalties following conviction within the last 5 years?***
- 7. How many officers/staff members within your force have been trained in wildlife crime investigation?***
- 8. How many officers/staff within your force are Accredited Financial Investigators?***

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.

Question 1 – Crimes against Wildlife will generally be investigated by Neighbourhood Teams.

Question 2

The figure is correct as of 31st March 2025 based on headcount and excluding external secondments and career breaks.

Police Officers – 7,946
Police Staff – 4,410
PCSO – 321

Question 3

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 1st January 2020 and 31st December 2024, where the crime Home Office classification is 96 'wildlife offences', excluding cancelled crimes and crimes classified as fraud. Further information about cancelled crimes can be obtained from the Home Office Counting Rules. Details regarding fraud crime can be obtained by contacting the NFIB.

Total – 14

Question 4

Please note the above caveats.

Total – 0

Question 5 & 6

GMP do not hold prosecution or conviction data. For this information you will need to redirect your request to His Majesty's Court and Tribunal Service (HMCTS).

Question 7

Please note the training is currently ongoing and not yet fully completed.

Total 27

Question 8

Based on Position title containing Financial Investigator as of 31st March and Headcount the total is 29.

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