



Date: 22/08/2025
Our ref: 01/FOI/25/015390/T

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/25/015390/T

I write in connection with your request for information dated 22/08/2025, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

- 1. How many bike thefts have been reported for 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024 and 2025 (to date)? Please provide the quantity per year. That's each year running from January to December, if possible. If you work in financial year's instead of calendar years, please indicate.*
- 2. How many of these stolen bikes have been recovered and returned to their owners? Please provide the response for 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024 and 2025 (to date)? Please provide the quantity per year. That's each year running from January to December, if possible. If you work in financial year's instead of calendar years, please indicate.*
- 3. How many arrests/convictions have there been relating to the stolen bikes? Please provide the response for 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024 and 2025 (to date)? Please provide the quantity per year. That's each year running from January to December, if possible. If you work in financial year's instead of calendar years, please indicate.*

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.

However, GMP does not hold the information that you have requested in an easily retrievable format. To provide the data requested in question 2 would involve a manual search of all

bicycle theft crimes to see if it is noted that the stolen bicycle was recovered and returned to its rightful owner.

A search of our records shows that there are 17,390 crimes that would have to be manually reviewed. At a very conservative estimate of 5 minutes to locate, retrieve and review each file it would take approximately 1,449 hours to ascertain the data required.

Therefore, to comply with the whole of your request the process would take over 18 hours' work which exceeds the appropriate limit of £450.00, the amount to which we are legally required to respond.

As per section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the cost of providing you with the information is therefore above the amount to which we are legally required to respond i.e. the cost of locating and retrieving the information exceeds the 'appropriate level' as stated in the Freedom of Information (Fees and Appropriate Limit) Regulations 2004.

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000, this letter acts as a Refusal Notice.

GMP is obligated, pursuant to section 16(1) of the Act to provide you with advice and assistance on refining your request to bring compliance within the fees limit. In order for the force to keep this within the fees limit, the information that you are requesting will need to be reduced to a greatly reduced time period. The resulting response cannot be guaranteed at this point as it will be dependent upon the number of records that fall within the scope of any new request, as they would still have to be manually assessed.

Should you wish to refine and resubmit your request in line with the advice above please respond to freedomofinformation@gmp.police.uk