

Date: 2nd December 2025
Our ref: FOI/25/015907/A

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: FOI/25/015907/A

I write in connection with your request for information dated 24/11/2025, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, please provide the following recorded crime statistics held in your force's databases for the period 1 January 2010 - 31 December 2024 (or latest available):

1. Crimes recorded at Christian places of worship

Please provide the number of recorded crimes where the premises type / location category is recorded or coded as:

Church

Chapel

Christian place of worship

Churchyard / graveyard associated with a church

Please provide totals broken down by calendar year.

If your force uses alternative terms or codes for churches, please use your own premises-type code and specify the term used.

2. Total crimes recorded (all premises types)

For the same period, please provide the total number of crimes recorded at all premises types, by calendar year.

(This allows for proportional comparison.)

3. Recording practice clarification

If your force does not record premises type in a searchable field, please confirm:

whether premises type is stored in any structured field,

whether it is searchable,

the earliest date from which it becomes searchable (if applicable).

Important notes to avoid Section 12

To be clear:

I am not requesting case files, free-text logs, or narrative searches.

I am requesting only pre-existing aggregated data from structured fields, such as premises-type codes, building-type fields, MO location fields, or other location categories used in your crime-recording system.

If some years cannot be extracted within the cost limit, please provide all years that can be extracted, and state the earliest year available.

Note on standard practice

Many UK police forces, including yours, routinely publish crime-location data through open-data portals using premises-type codes. This request seeks the same aggregated data, not individual records.

Result of Searches

Following receipt of your request searches were conducted within Greater Manchester Police (GMP) to locate the requested information. 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 crimes with a created date between 01/01/2019 and 31/12/2024 where the MO sub category field contains 'abbey', 'cathedral', 'chapel' or 'church', 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.

MO keywords are only available for new and migrated crimes and therefore we are only able to provide data from 2019 onwards.

The MO keywords are not mandatory and may not be completed.

- There may be relevant records missing from our response where this field has not been completed.

- As these are optional fields, an increase or decrease in crime volume where these fields are part of the filtering may not indicate a true increase or decrease of the volume of these crimes, but may reflect a change in usage of this field.
- These are the only fields that would have a specified premise; however, they are not mandatory fields and therefore some records may be missed.

Crime MO Keyword	Crime MO Category	Crime MO Sub Category
Location	Place Of Worship	Abbey
Location	Place Of Worship	Cathedral
Location	Place Of Worship	Chapel
Location	Place Of Worship	Church

Response Data

Year	Christian place of worship count	Total crime count
2019	54	308,127
2020	58	271,077
2021	122	340,940
2022	264	366,554
2023	288	353,359
2024	284	323,022