



Date: 10/12/2025
Our ref: 01/FOI/25/015949/K

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/25/015949/K

I write in connection with your request for information dated 02/12/2025, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

- 1. What is the monetary value of tools (hand tools and power tools) your police force recovered that have been stolen from vehicles, construction sites and home premises' between December 1 2024 and December 1 2025? Are you able to identify these figures relating to tradespeople?*
- 2. How many reports of tool theft has your police force received between December 1 2024 and December 1 2025 and what percentage of stolen tools have you recovered in that time period? Are you able to identify these figures relating to tradespeople?*

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 theft crimes within your timeframe to see if the item stolen was a tool.

A search of our crime records shows that there are 78,000 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 6,500 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