

Date: 2nd December 2025
Our ref: FOI/25/015583/A

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: FOI/25/015583/A

I write in connection with your request for information dated 02/10/2025, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I request the following information:

- 1. The current average time taken by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) in 2025 to get a RIPA order from the court.*
 - 2. The current average time taken by GMP in 2025 to complete a digital download of a seized mobile phone, where a PIN has been supplied, and the current average time taken where no PIN has been supplied.*
 - 3. The longest waiting times currently recorded for such phone downloads.*
 - 4. Any internal policies, guidance, or targets that relate to mobile phone download timescales.*
 - 5. For the calendar years 2023, 2024, and 2025 to date:*
 - a. The number of stalking allegations recorded by GMP, broken down by gender (men/women).*
 - b. The number of those allegations that resulted in charges, broken down by gender (men/women).*
 - c. The number that resulted in convictions, broken down by gender (men/women).*
 - d. The average length of time (in days) between a stalking allegation being recorded and a charging decision being made by GMP, broken down by gender (men/women).*
 - 6. The average length of time (in days) between a stalking allegation being recorded and a charging decision being made by GMP, for the calendar years 2023, 2024, and 2025 to date.*
- I would be grateful for the information in electronic form.*

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 determine if a PIN has or hasn't been provided would require a manual review of all device records, as the information is not recorded in a searchable format. As such, it is anticipated it would take in excess of 18 hours to provide the information requested in question 2.

Therefore as per section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the cost of providing you with the information is 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.

However, in accordance with Section 16(1) – the duty to provide advice and assistance – of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, Greater Manchester Police will be unable able to provide advice for you to reduce question 2 in order for the force to keep this within the fees limit.

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

Although excess costs remove GMP's obligations under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, as a gesture of goodwill I have supplied some information relative to your request that was retrieved before it was realised that the fees limit would be exceed (see below information). I hope that this is of use to you, but it does not affect our legal right to rely on the fees regulations for the remainder of your request.

Question 1 – No information held. We do not track the time it takes from seizure to order.

Question 2

The average time taken to extract a mobile device using forensic software is between 1 – 2 hours.

Question 3

Currently the Digital Forensics Investigation Unit has devices waiting 32 days before they are going to be examined.

Question 4

The target to estimated time of allocation is same day for crucial accessed work, 5 days for urgent priority work and 28 days for everything else.

Question 5 and 6

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.

- The data provided for this request is based on a search of the HO Codes 008/65 and 008/66 recorded between 01/01/2023 to 02/10/2025 inclusive. The data has then been filtered by Victim Gender and Outcomes.
- 'Missing Value' or 'Unknown' means that this field hasn't been populated on our operating systems.
- The data is based on the Crime recorded date and not when the Incident occurred.
- Where possible duplicates have been removed.

- The data has been provided by calendar year except for 2025 which is 01/01/2025 to 02/10/2025.
- The data provided for this request is subject to change as crimes are progressed and/ or updated.
- Part 6 & 5 d. appear to be the same request.
- We are unable to provide a response to question 5c as we do not hold conviction data. For conviction data you will need to contact the courts.

	2023	2024	2025
5 a. Total Stalking Allegations	8,798	9,509	8,014
Female Victim	6,869	7,305	5,999
Male Victim	1,883	2,174	1,983
Unknown/ Not Recorded	46	30	32

	2023	2024	2025
5 b. Total Charges	809	799	543
Female Victim	761	761	506
Male Victim	48	37	35
Unknown/ Not Recorded	-	1	2
5 d. & 6. Average Duration (Days)	69	67	35