

Date: 28/02/2025
Our ref: 01/FOI/25/014300/X

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/25/014300/X

I write in connection with your request for information dated 25/02/2025, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

1) How many complaints of a sexual nature (by 'complaint' I mean reports of offences including sexual harassment, stalking, sexual assault, rape etc) have you received about a licensed taxi or private hire driver in Manchester and Greater Manchester as a total number in years:

2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024 and so far in 2025

Please list total number for each year and reason for each complaint. Please also specify type of taxi e.g. Manchester black cab, Uber, Streetcars etc. Please specify whether the reported assault took place whilst working (e.g. driving the taxi) or outside of work.

2) How many taxi or private hire drivers have lost their jobs following these complaints in the following periods:

2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024 and so far in 2025

3) How many reports of unlicensed taxi/private hire vehicles or drivers have you received in the following periods?

2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024 and so far in 2025

4) How many taxi or private hire drivers with a declared criminal conviction have been granted a licence or had their licence renewed in the following periods:

2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024 and so far in 2025

5) How many taxi drivers or private hire drivers were charged in court in relation to these sexual crimes in these periods?

2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024 and so far in 2025

Please include as much information as you have relating to the charges in court e.g. charges, outcome etc.

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.

However, GMP does not hold the information that you have requested in an easily retrievable format.

For GMP to be able to provide a response to this request it will require a substantial manual review of all the recorded crimes that relate to this request. We do not have a field in our systems to suggest what occupation a suspect may be, and a review will be needed to identify if this data is recorded. In the last year (2024) there was 264 results and to complete a review at 10 minutes per each would take in the region of 44hrs and does not include the remaining years.

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.

If one part of the request engages a Section 12 response, the whole request will engage a Section 12 response. The reason being is locating, retrieving and extracting any further information would only add to the already exceeded time obligations and so no other searches have been completed at this stage.

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 attempt to keep this within the fees limit, the information you are requesting will need revising with a shorter time frame and a reduction in the volume of information required. Please note questions 2 and 4 would not be held by GMP, so these will need to be removed.

With any request that requires a manual review there is always a chance of a request being refused under S12 due to the enormity of work that is usually needed to provide the data, therefore 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.