

Date: 18/03/2025
Our ref: 01/FOI/25/014396/V

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/25/014396/V

I write in connection with your request for information dated 12/03/2025, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

Under the Freedom of Information Act, I would like to request the following information regarding violations of Highway Code Rule 57 (failure to properly restrain animals in a vehicle):

- 1. The total number of fines issued for breaches of Rule 57 over the last 3 years.***
- 2. The total revenue generated from these fines for each year.***
- 3. A breakdown of the types of animals involved in these violations.***

For clarity, I would appreciate it if the breakdown could include:

- A. The specific type of animal involved (e.g., dogs, cats, other pets).***
- B. The number of fines issued for each type of animal.***
- C. The revenue generated from fines related to each type of animal.***

Please provide this data separately for each year so that a year-on-year comparison can be made.

If it is not possible to provide any of this information due to exceeding the appropriate cost limit outlined in Section 12 of the Freedom of Information Act, please advise what information could be provided within the limit.

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 offences that relate to this request. Breaching of this rule would fall under an overarching offence such as *due care/consideration, driver not in proper control* and is not a road traffic offence in its own right. When we record these offences, our Central Ticket Officer do not log the specifics of the offence and there is no searchable field to locate this. GMP would need to manually search through notices issued for offences that may be used for such an occurrence to identify any that may mention Rule 57 or animals in vehicles. An initial search has looked at 3 overarching offences that this offence may be recorded under and it has revealed over 11,000 results, of which to review each one would far exceed the 18hrs permitted to respond.

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.

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