

Date: 24/03/2025

Our ref: 01/FOI/25/014435/L

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/25/014435/L

I write in connection with your request for information dated 18/03/2025, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

How many crimes have barber shops been connected to in each of the past five years? And can GMP provide a breakdown of the types of offences

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.

Due to the way in which our system records this type of offence, a manual review would be the only way to understand how many times an offence has been committed at "a barber shop" An initial search has been carried out and between 1st January 2020 and 31st December 2024 where the crime description or crime MO description contains 'barber shop'. This has revealed 147 results, however on first glance it is evident not all are related to crimes. The manual review would need to be carried out to know how many of these results are crimes at these premises. At a conservative estimate of 10 minutes per each review of the crime and MO description, this request would take in the region of 24hrs to complete.

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.

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 reduced time frame. 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.