

Date: 24/1/2025
Our ref: 01/FOI/25/014008/S

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/25/014008/S

I write in connection with your request for information dated 20/01/2025, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

Revised Request version -

- 1. How many offences recorded under 013/02 'abduction of a child by other persons' (other than a parent) have GMP received during the years of 2018, 2019, 2024 and January 2025, to date, broken down by month.***
- 2. Where did these attempted/successful abductions take place?***
- 3. When did they take place?***
- 4. What description of the attempted/successful abductor was made available to the public?***
- 5. What description of the attempted/successful abductor is held on record?***

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 some of the information that you have requested in an easily retrievable format.

GMP are unable to respond to questions 4 and 5 without carrying out a manual review. For each of the years requested, it would require each offence to be manually checked to identify what information it holds for these 2 questions. This information is not recorded in a way that can be easily extracted from our systems. It would also require cross referencing with GMP's press office to understand what and if any information was provided in the public domain about the "abductor". Under the HO code provided we have located almost 250 records, and to review each one at a conservative rate of 10 minutes each would take approximately 40hrs. This approximate time is only the basis that the press office can locate the requested information in a timely manner.

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.

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 the removal of question 4 and 5. 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.