

Date: 30/07/2025
Our ref: 01/FOI/25/015193/Q

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/25/015193/Q

I write in connection with your request for information dated 24/07/2025, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

I am writing to request information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 / Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002.

I would like to request the following information:

- 1. The number of reported incidents of tool theft recorded by your police force for each of the last five calendar years (2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024), and if available, year-to-date data for 2025.*
- 2. For each year, please provide a breakdown of:*
 - o The number of thefts from vehicles, residential properties, construction sites, or commercial premises (if this categorisation is available).*
 - o The estimated total value of tools reported stolen each year (if recorded).*

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 thefts for the time periods requested. Our systems do not have a searchable field to be able to easily determine what items have been stolen/taken and so a review would be the only way to extract this information. For the time frame you have requested, there have been over 500,000 records logged and so to review each one would far exceed the 18hr permitted to provide this information.

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.