

Date: 04/07/2025
Our ref: 01/FOI/25/015018/C

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/25/015018/C

I write in connection with your request for information dated 27/06/2025, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I would like to request the following information:

**A) The number of firearm and/or shotgun certificates held by people under the age of 18, with a total number for each age.
(eg. 17-year-olds = 100 certificates, etc.)**

**B) If possible, a list of reasons for firearm ownership among non-adults, with a total number of certificates issued for each.
(eg. Sporting = 20 certificates, Collection = 10 certificates, etc.)**

If part B is not possible, then data just for part A would satisfy this request.

If fulfilling this request exceeds the cost limit, please advise on how I may refine it to fall within the limits.

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.

Part A.

Due to some low results, the total number of U18s have been provided only, as by providing all this information split by individual ages as you have requested would significantly increase the likelihood of identifying the individual(s) concerned, and as such the exemption under S40(2) – Personal Information, would be engaged and result in information being refused. By replacing the data this way, it can be provided in its entirety.

Response - Analysis of the National Firearms Licensing Management System reports there are 9 certificate holders under 18.

Part B.

Due to some low results, I have grouped the reasons why together, as by providing all this information split by a total number of certificates issued for each as you have requested would significantly increase the likelihood of identifying the individual(s) concerned, and as such the exemption under S40(2) – Personal Information, would be engaged and result in information being refused. By replacing the data this way, it can be provided in its entirety.

Response – See below reasons why the 9 under 18s may hold certificates – please note multiple reasons may apply to more than 1 person.

Clay Shooting
Competition Usage
Overseas Visitors
Club usage

Please see the link below which outlines Age restrictions for firearm and shotgun certificates which may be of use.

[Age restrictions for firearm and shotgun certificates | Greater Manchester Police](#)