



Date: 03/06/2025
Our ref: 01/FOI/25/014731/Q

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/25/014731/Q

I write in connection with your request for information dated 09/05/2025, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request the following information from your police force:

1a) How many times have you responded to a malicious threat or intruder at a school where they have had to do a full lockdown in the years (from January-January): 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025.

b) Can you give a breakdown to the nature of the incident in reference to question 1a

2a) How many people aged 0 to 16-years-old have been found in possession of a knife or bladed articles in school and have been arrested for the following years (from January-January): 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025.

b) Can you give a break down by age and sex in reference to question 2a

3a) How many people aged 0 to 16-years-old have been charged for possession of a knife or bladed article at a school for the following years (from January-January): 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025.

b) Can you give a break down by age and sex in reference to question 3a

4a) How many violent assaults have you attended in schools for the following years (from January-January): 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025.

b) Can you give a break down by age and sex in reference to question 4a

Result of Searches

Following receipt of your request searches were conducted within Greater Manchester Police (GMP) to locate information relevant to your request. I can confirm that the information you have requested is held by GMP.

However, GMP does not hold the information that you have requested in an easily retrievable format. To provide the data requested in question 4 would involve a manual search of all incidents recorded under code **C01 Violent/Public Order** to see if the incident related to an assault, if the age and sex of the suspect is noted, and if the incident took place in a school.

A search of our incident management system shows that in 2024 alone there were 92,645 C01 incidents recorded. At a very conservative estimate of 5 minutes to locate, retrieve and review each file it would take approximately 7,700 hours to ascertain the data required, and that would only be for the last year, not the full 7 years of your request.

Therefore, to comply with the whole of your request the process would take over 18 hours' work which exceeds the appropriate limit of £450.00, the amount to which we are legally required to respond.

As per section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the cost of providing you with the information is therefore 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 keep this within the fees limit, the information that you are requesting will need to be reduced to a greatly reduced time period. 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