



Date: 11/06/2025
Our ref: 01/FOI/25/014780/Z

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/25/014780/Z

I write in connection with your request for information dated 16/05/2025, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

Number of arrests made under section 127 of the Communications Act 2003 and Section 1 of the Malicious Communications Act 1988. I would like the data in calendar years from 2015 until 2025.

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.

CAVEATS

In July 2019, GMP implemented one of the largest IT infrastructure changes in UK policing – the systems are in continual development and the data provided for this request is what the systems currently hold. Any data provided for this request is subject to change as crimes are progressed and/or updated.

Management of Police Information regulations state that non-essential records should be removed from police systems six financial years after the year in which they were originally created. This means that data that is more than six financial years old may be incomplete and should not be compared to more recent data.

Please note that the information is the number of arrests made, not the number of people arrested, or the number of crimes recorded. There may be more than one arrest linked to some crimes and some people may have been arrested more than once. Some crimes will not have

an arrest linked to them. If you would like to know the number of crimes recorded under these offences, please make a separate request for that information.

Year	Number of Arrests – S1 Malicious Communications Act.
2015	0
2016	2
2017	2
2018	4
2019	119
2020	500
2021	1,039
2022	1,868
2023	1,690
2024	610
2025	85

GMP have no recorded arrests under S127 Communications Act.