



Date: 18/06/2025
Our ref: 01/FOI/25/014817/V

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/25/014817/V

I write in connection with your request for information dated 2/05/2025, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

Please could you provide the following information and where possible, please can responses be split by gender (i.e. numbers of boys and girls).

In the past 12 months:

- 1. How many boys have been reported missing from home?*
- 2. Of these missing from home cases, how many were missing for 3 days or longer?*
- 3. How many boys are believed to be victims of criminal exploitation?*
- 4. How many adults under the age of 25 are believed to be victims of criminal exploitation?*
- 5. How many boys are believed to be involved in gangs?*
- 6. How many adults under the age of 25 are believed to be involved in gangs?*
- 7. How many boys have been arrested for knife offences?*
- 8. How many adults under the age of 25 have been arrested for knife offences?*
- 9. How many boys have been arrested for possession of crack cocaine?*
- 10. How many boys have been arrested for possession of heroin?*
- 11. How many adults under the age of 25 have been arrested for possession of crack cocaine?*
- 12. How many adults under the age of 25 have been arrested for possession of heroin?*

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 some of the information you have requested is held by GMP.

GMP does not hold the information that you have requested in an easily retrievable format. To provide the data requested in questions 2 would involve a manual search of all incident records that involve a missing boy in the last 12 months to establish how many were for 3 days or over.

A search of our missing person records shows that there were 6,779 such incidents. At a very conservative estimate of 5 minutes to locate, retrieve and review each file it would take approximately 565 hours to ascertain the data required.

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.

Additionally, the information you have requested in questions 3 and 4 is impossible to collate without a manual review of the records of every male under the age of 25.

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