

Date: 17th June 2025
Our ref: FOI/25/014852/Y

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: FOI/25/014852/Y

I write in connection with your request for information dated 29/05/2025, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

I would like to request the below information under the Freedom of Information Act:

1. Please tell me the number of recorded offences under s.15A of the Sexual Offences Act 2003, sexual communication with a child, (Home Office recording code 71/17) recorded from (and including) April 1st 2024 until (and including) March 31st, 2025.

2. Where possible I would like to know the age and gender of the victim, broken down into age groups: 11 and under, 12-15, 16 and over.

3. Please tell me the age and gender of the youngest victim.

4. Where possible I would like to know the total number of perpetrators linked to these offences.

5. Please tell me all the forms of communication (i.e. which social media or messaging platform such as WhatsApp, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat, Kik, TikTok etc.) that have been recorded as having been used in connection with recorded offences under s.15A of the Sexual Offences Act 2003, sexual communication with a child, from (and including) April 1st 2024 , until (and including) March 31st 2025.

6. How many offences, where the means of communication was known, took place on private messaging services?

I suggest a table as follows: **see email**

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.

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.

1. The crime grand total is the volume of victims of crimes using the HO Code 071/17 (as defined above) for the period 01/04/2024-31/03/2025.
2. Where possible duplicates have been removed.
3. The data is based on the date the crime was created and not when the crime was committed.
4. In order to establish the social Platform involved the MO Descriptions for each record were considered individually.

Question 1 and 2

Age	Female	Male	Unknown/ Not Recorded	Grand Total
11 & under	65	16	0	81
12 to 15	205	34	0	239
16+	8	6	0	14
Unknown/ Not Recorded	2	1	174	177
Grand Total	280	57	174	511

Question 3

The youngest victim was male and 4 years old.

Question 4

There were 363 Perpetrators linked to the above offences.

Question 5

Platform	Volume of Crimes
SnapChat	139
Whatsapp	20
IMVU	1
Chat IB	7
Discord	10
Omegle	2
TikTok	9
Facebook Messenger	7
Facetime	3
Grindr	5
Talkie & Linky	2
Just Talk	2
Kik	5

Xbox	7
Skype	1
Instagram	6
Twitter/ X	1
Rando Chat	6
Unknown	278
Total	511

Question 6

Please see the above table for Q5.