

Date: 17/06/2025
Our ref: 01/FOI/25/014873/D

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/25/014873/D

I write in connection with your request for information dated 03/06/2025, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

How many reports of ghosts, werewolves, witches, aliens, zombies, and similar phenomena have been submitted to Greater Manchester Police in the past three years, and how were these reports handled?

Clarification Provided - the outcome of reported incidents and were any investigated further, etc. Can you also provide a breakdown by borough if that is possible.

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.

This data contains incidents with a created date between 01/01/2022 and 31/12/2024 where the title or details contains 'ghosts', 'werewolves', 'witches', 'aliens' or 'zombies', excluding incidents with a closing code of L10 Duplicate, L19 Error or L22 Test or training. Please note:

- The keyword methodology does not account for spelling errors.
- The appearance of the keywords in the text fields does not necessarily mean that records are relevant to this request.
- A crime outcome of 'Missing Value' means that the investigation is ongoing, and an outcome has not yet been applied.

- Due to some low results, the totals for the borough breakdowns outcomes have been provided as one figure, as by providing all this information split by individual district 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.

District	Incident count
A - City of Manchester North	30
A - City of Manchester Central	14
A - City of Manchester South	26
F - Salford	22
G - Tameside	14
I - Manchester Airport	3
J - Stockport	21
K - Bolton	23
L - Wigan	22
M - Trafford	14
N - Bury	19
P - Rochdale	24
Q - Oldham	23
U - Unknown	4
Total	259

District	Suspect Identified- Insufficient Evidence Police (15B)	Investigation Complete - No Suspect Identified (18)	Suspect Identified- Victim Does not Support (16)	Evidential Difficulties Victim Based - No Suspect Identified (14)	Missing Value	Charged Alternative Offence (1C)	Prosecution Time Limit Expired (17)	Charge (1A)	Decision Pending (98)	Total
Total	9	30	15	8	4	1	1	2	1	71