



Date: 07/05/2025
Our ref: 01/FOI/25/014559/W

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/25/014559/W

I write in connection with your request for information dated 08/04/2025, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

I would like to request the following under the FOI Act for the years between and including 2019 and 2024.

1. 1 The number of out-of-control dog causing injury to a person or guide dog offences
2. 2 The number of these offences involving XL Bullies
3. 3 The number of dogs seized
4. 4 The number of these seizures involving XL Bullies
5. 5 The number of dogs destroyed
6. 6 The number of these destructions involving XL Bullies

You have 20 working days to respond to this request. As the act says, please inform me how I can amend this if needed.

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 2 would involve a manual search of all crimes recorded under 008/21 "Owner or person in charge allowing a dog to be dangerously out of control in any place in England and Wales (whether in a public place or not) injuring any person or assistance dog" to see if the breed of dog is recorded and if the breed was an XL Bully.

As can be seen from the published information on 008/21 crimes recorded, between August 2019 and December 2024 there were 6,471 crimes recorded. At a very conservative estimate of 5 minutes to locate, retrieve and review each file it would take approximately 539 hours to ascertain the data required, and that still not cover the full time frame 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