

Date: 20/05/2025
Our ref: 01/FOI/25/014707/Q

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/25/014707/Q

I write in connection with your request for information dated 06/05/2025, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

I am writing to request the following information under the Freedom of Information act.

1. From 2019 to the most recent data available, how many crimes were logged by your police force where a slingshot was recorded as being an element in the offence? Please provide a yearly breakdown in a table (Note: I would hope that this could be achieved by a computer search on the MO of crimes for the word "slingshot" or synonyms like "catapult")

2. Please provide me with a table showing a breakdown of the crimes from Question 1 that are 'linked' to slingshot/s by its mention in the MO for 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024 and 2025 by offence subgroup as per the Home Office counting rules.

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 crimes with a created date between 01/01/2019 and 06/05/2025 where the crime description or crime MO description contains 'slingshot' or 'catapult', excluding cancelled crimes and crimes classified as fraud. Further information about cancelled crimes can be obtained from the Home

Office Counting Rules. Details regarding fraud crime can be obtained by contacting the NFIB. 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.
- Due to some low results, the total number has been provided as one total for 2019-2025 as by providing all this information split by individual year 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. This is also the same with the HO Offences, the outcomes located/used have been separated as per the above. By replacing the data this way, it can be provided in its entirety

1. 131.
2. See table below.

Please see the list below which contains the offences the data has been processed under. Each of the 131 results will be connected to one of the below.

Crime Latest Classification : HO Offence Group
Assault with injury / 8S Assault with injury on a constable /8T Assault with injury on an emergency worker (other than a constable)
Assault with intent to cause serious harm
Assault without Injury
Assault without Injury on a Constable
Criminal Damage - Residential
Criminal Damage to a building - Business and Community
Criminal Damage to a Building other than a Dwelling
Criminal Damage to a Dwelling
Criminal Damage to a vehicle
Endangering Life
Harassment
Offender Management Act
Other Criminal Damage
Possession of Article with Blade or Point
Possession of controlled drugs
Possession of Firearms Offences
Possession of Firearms with intent
Possession of Other Weapons
Public Fear Alarm or Distress
Robbery of Personal Property
Stalking
Theft from a Motor Vehicle
Threats to Kill