

Date: 01/05/2025
Our ref: 01/FOI/25/014229/H

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/25/014229/H

I write in connection with your request for information dated 14/02/2025, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

This is a request under the Freedom of Information Act and I would like to receive the following information from your Police Force.

1. The number of crimes reports where a child under the age of 18 was in possession of a weapon on school/further education premises?

Please provide data for the following calendar years: 2014, 2019, 2023, 2024

Within this - please provide:

Breakdown of type of weapons used (please list examples if you cannot provide a full breakdown)

Breakdown of the ages of the children (e.g. Under 4, 4-6, 6-8, 8-10, 10-12, 12-14, 14-16, 16-18)

Breakdown of gender (male and female)

2. The number of crime reports where a child under the age of 18 has committed the following offences on school/further education premises?

Please provide data for each offence for the following calendar years: 2014, 2019, 2023, 2024

a) Common Assault & Battery

b) ABH (s47)

b) GBH (s20)

c) Wounding with or without a weapon (s18)

Within this - please provide

Breakdown of the number of victims who was a pupil

Breakdown of the number of victims who was a member of staff

Breakdown of the ages of the children (e.g. Under 4, 4-6, 6-8, 8-10, 10-12, 12-14, 14-16, 16-18)

Breakdown of gender (male and female)

3. The number of crime reports where a child under the age of 18 was threatening someone with a weapon on school/further education premises?

Please provide data for the following calendar years: 2014, 2019, 2023, 2024

Within this - please provide:

Breakdown of type of weapons used (please list examples if you cannot provide a full breakdown)

Breakdown of the ages of the children (e.g. Under 4, 4-6, 6-8, 8-10, 10-12, 12-14, 14-16, 16-18)

Breakdown of gender (male and female)

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 some of the information requested is held by GMP.

However, GMP does not hold the information that you have requested in an easily retrievable format

GMP would be unable to provide a Breakdown of type of weapons used for this request without carrying out a manual review of over 250 records. A manual review would also be needed understand whether the victims of crimes were pupils or staff. This information is not on our systems in a way that allows for easy extraction. To complete both reviews to provide these parts of the request would take in the region of 45hrs and therefore cannot be completed.

If one part of the request engages a Section 12 response, the whole request will engage a Section 12 response. The reason being is locating, retrieving and extracting any further information would only add to the already exceeded time obligations and so no other searches have been completed at this stage.

Therefore, as per **Section 12(1)** of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the cost of providing you with the information is 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 attempt to keep this within the fees limit, the information you are requesting will need revising with the removal of the breakdowns required for the type of weapons used and who the victim of crimes is. With any request that requires a manual review there is always a chance of a request being refused under S12 due to the enormity of work that is usually needed to provide the data, therefore 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.