

Date: 08/05/2025
Our ref: 01/FOI/25/014674/Y

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/25/014674/Y

I write in connection with your request for information dated 28/04/2025, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

How many arrests were made in 2024 relating to stolen sheep?

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.

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

For GMP to be able to provide a response to this request it will require a substantial manual review of all the recorded arrests for thefts for the time periods requested. Our systems do not have a searchable field to be able to easily determine what items have been stolen/taken and so a review would be the only way to extract this information. We have carried out a soft search using the keyword "sheep" and this revealed 0 results that match this request. For a review to be carried out for an accurate account on the data held would far exceed the time limits permitted as this would be for over 6500 arrests.

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.

In this instance, Greater Manchester Police will be unable to provide advice for you to reduce the request in order for the force to keep this within the fees limit in accordance with Section 16(1), the duty to provide advice and assistance, of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.