

Date: 16th May 2025
Our ref: FOI/25/014721/O

I write in connection with your request for information dated 07/05/2025, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

Please would you let me know in writing if you hold information of the following description, relating to sexual offences recorded in schools:

For the following years: 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024 and 2025 (until as recently as possible):

1) The total number of reports received by the constabulary for the crimes listed below that have taken place in schools in the area covered by the force:

E.g. "There were a total of X reports of crime 07117 made to the force in 2020, Y in 2021, etc."

I provide a link to the response by the Metropolitan Police to a similar request:

<https://www.met.police.uk/foi-ai/metropolitan-police/disclosure-2023/november-2023/sexual-offences-recorded-schools-january2017-september2023/>

I would like a copy of the information and would prefer for it to be sent by email if possible.

If any part of the information requested is covered by one or more of the absolute exemptions in the Act please treat this request as a request for that part of the information which is not covered by the absolute exemption.

If you need further details in order to identify the information requested or a fee is payable please let me know as soon as possible.

If you are of the view that there may be further information of the kind requested but it is held by another public authority please let me know as soon as possible. Please continue with this application as quickly as possible.

I believe that the information requested is required in the public interest for the following reasons:

- 1. To uphold public confidence that the council has thorough policies on the type of information it is obliged to record.***

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 determine if a 'Rape' and 'Other Sexual Offence' crime occurred on a school premises would require a manual review of all crimes returned where the keyword 'school' is mentioned in the crime description field. From an initial search there is over 3,300 crimes which would require a manual review. At a very conservative estimate of 15 minutes per record would take this request to in excess of 838 hours to ascertain the data required.

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.

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

Should you wish to refine and resubmit your request in line with the advice above please respond to freedomofinformation@gmp.police.uk