

Date: 06/11/2025
Our ref: 01/FOI/25/015706/T

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/25/015706/T

I write in connection with your request for information dated 22/10/2025, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

Please provide the following for the Greater Manchester Police (GMP) area:

- 1. The number of recorded crimes involving parcels/packages stolen during the month of December for each year in the period December [2020] to December [2024] (inclusive).***
- 2. Please include offences where the modus operandi (MO) or free-text notes indicate a stolen parcel, package, or delivered item, including thefts from doorsteps, communal areas of residential buildings, building lobbies, concierge rooms, or taken from delivery drivers.***
- 3. For the same set of offences, I would like to request the total recorded value (£) of items reported stolen, and-if readily available-the average value per offence.***

If available without exceeding the cost limit, please also provide:

- 4. The outcome for these offences (e.g., charged/summonsed, investigation complete - no suspect identified, etc.).***
- 5. Definitions & search parameters (to assist Section 16 duty):***
- 6. Where there is no single offence code for "parcel theft", please search across relevant theft categories (e.g., "Theft - Other", "Theft from the Person", "Burglary - Residential", "Theft/Handling" as applicable) filtered by MO keywords including but not limited to: parcel, package, delivered item, delivery, courier, Amazon, Evri, DPD, Royal Mail, Yodel, UPS.***
- 7. Please include thefts from delivery vehicles only where a specific parcel/package was the target (as opposed to general vehicle theft), if this can be separated by MO.***

If the GMP does not hold value data for stolen goods in a structured form, please confirm this and provide the count data only.

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.

GMP systems, do not have a filter that allows for the easy extraction of data on parcel thefts specifically identifying thefts from delivery vehicles, doorsteps plus other scenarios outlined above. To understand how many thefts relate to parcels/packages during the time frame requested would require a manual review of the related theft offences and to apply a keyword search to further breakdown the results to ascertain what data is linked to your request. A review of approximately 7,000 crimes would have to be completed using the HO codes 049/10 and 049/11 for this search. A further review of over 2,000 crimes would need to be carried out to answer question 7 using a keyword search of the main delivery firms such as Amazon, Evri, DHL etc. This request would therefore exceed the 18hrs permitted to provide a response.

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 a reduced time frame or to request total figures only for the closest HO offence codes to your request, for example like.

- 042/00 Theft of mail bag or postal packet
- 049/10 Theft if not classified elsewhere
- 049/11 Removal of articles from places open to the public

However, 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.