

Date: 21/11/2025
Our ref: 01/FOI/25/015848/G

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/25/015848/G

I write in connection with your request for information dated 13/11/2025, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

I would like to request information under the Freedom of Information Act regarding dogs seized and put down under the Dangerous Dog Act.

Please can you provide the following:

- 1) The number of dogs seized under the Dangerous Dog Act per month from January 2019 to the most recent complete month.***
- 2) The number of dogs put down under the Dangerous Dog Act per month from January 2019 to the most recent complete month.***
- 3) The number of dogs seized per year since 2019, broken down by breed type. Please include the 'XL Bully' / 'American Bully' and all other breed types. If possible, clarify which months are included in the year 2025.***

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 are unable to provide a response to question 3 without carrying out a manual review. The systems in which this information is held does not allow for any filtering to locate and retrieve such data, and so over 1800 records would be needed to be trawled through to see what information is recorded. This information would not cover the full request as we only started recording type/breed in

2021. At a rate of approximately 5 minutes per each review, this request would take in the region of 150hrs to complete for this part of your request.

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.

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 Q3. 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.

Although excess costs remove GMP's obligations under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, as a gesture of goodwill I have supplied some information relative to your request that was retrieved before it was realised that the fees limit would be exceed (see below information). I hope that this is of use to you, but it does not affect our legal right to rely on the fee's regulations for the remainder of your request.

- Please see data below in calendar years of the number of dog seizures and "put downs" carried out per year.
- Data for 2025 is up to and including 14/11/2025.

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Number of Seizures	130	79	79	226	368	781	441

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Number of dogs Put Down	46	34	27	100	164	360	179