

Date: 26/11/2025
Our ref: 01/FOI/25/015885/L

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/25/015885/L

I write in connection with your request for information dated 19/11/2025, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

1. ***How many crimes reports logged under “Theft Act 1968: Section 13 (for abstraction of electricity)” in 2023, 2024 and to October 2025 – broken down annually.***
2. ***Of those, how many suspected to be for the cultivation or manufacture of illegal drugs - broken down annually.***

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 some of the information that you have requested in an easily retrievable format.

GMP would be unable to answer ***how many suspected to be for the cultivation or manufacture of illegal drugs*** without carrying out a manual review across of the located crimes that match this FOI. This information is not recorded or stored in any way that allows for an easy extraction and so cannot be fulfilled. There are over 900 crimes located and so to manually review each one would exceed 75hrs for this part of the request.

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 question 2.

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.

Question 1.

Caveats:

In July 2019, GMP implemented one of the largest IT infrastructure changes in UK policing. The systems are in continual development and the data provided for this request is what the systems currently hold.

- This data contains crimes under classification 43 'Dishonest Use of Electricity' and with a created date between 1st January 2023 and 31st October 2025 excluding cancelled crimes and crimes classified as fraud. Further information about cancelled crimes can be obtained from the Home Office Counting Rules. Details regarding fraud crime can be obtained by contacting the NFIB.

Year	2023	2024	2025
Crime Volume	368	342	237