



Date: 27/10/2025
Our ref: 01/FOI/25/015483/X

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/25/015483/X

I write in connection with your request for information dated 12/09/2025, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

I am writing to request the following information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000:

1. *How many shoplifting / theft from shops or stalls crimes were recorded in 2023?*
2. *How many of these were closed to a positive outcome (i.e. Charge, Charged Alternate Offence, Community Resolution)?*
3. *How many such crimes were recorded in 2024?*
4. *How many of these were closed to a positive outcome?*
5. *How many have been recorded so far in 2025 (to the present date)?*
6. *How many of these have been closed to a positive outcome?*
7. *How many shoplifting / theft from shops / theft from stalls crimes were physically attended by an officer so far in 2025 (i.e. Grade 1 / 2 / LT / LS allocation), as opposed to being allocated directly to the Initial Investigation Unit? Alternatively, how many were not physically attended?*
8. *Is there a specialist shoplifting team in GMP?*
9. *How many staff are in the Economic Crime Team (Police Constables/Detective Constables and Police Sergeants/Detective Sergeants only)?*
10. *What is the geographical distance covered by GMP (i.e. all divisions)?*
11. *How many Neighbourhood Response or Neighbourhood Beat PCs are there across all divisions?*

I would be grateful if you could provide this information in electronic format. If any part of my request exceeds the cost limits under Section 12 of the Act, please advise me as to how I may refine my request to bring it within the statutory limits. I am particularly interested in requests 1 through to 7.

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 some of 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 provide the data requested in question 7 would involve a manual search of all theft incidents that were attended to see which related to thefts from shops.

A search of our crime records shows that there were approximately 48,000 incidents that would have to be manually reviewed. At a very conservative estimate of 5 minutes to locate, retrieve and review each file it would take approximately 4,000 hours to ascertain the data required.

Therefore, to comply with the whole of your request the process would take over 18 hours' work which exceeds the appropriate limit of £450.00, the amount to which we are legally required to respond.

As per section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the cost of providing you with the information is therefore 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 keep this within the fees limit, the information that you are requesting will need to be reduced to a greatly reduced time period. 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