

Date: 25/09/2025
Our ref: 01/FOI/25/015445/R

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/25/015445/R

I write in connection with your request for information dated 04/09/2025, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

1. *A yearly breakdown of the total number of cars reported as stolen in your policing area during the periods:*

- ***1st April 2022 - March 31st 2023***
- ***1st April 2023 - March 31st 2024***
- ***1st April 2024 - March 31st 2025***

2. *A yearly breakdown of the total number of thefts from a vehicle reported in your policing area during the periods:*

- ***1st April 2022 - March 31st 2023***
- ***1st April 2023 - March 31st 2024***
- ***1st April 2024 - March 31st 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.

There have been over 20,000 theft of a motor vehicle offences for the requested time period, and to understand how many of them relate to a "car" would require a manual review as there is no search field on our system that will easily extract this information. Each crime will need the MO checking to see what was recorded as being reported as stolen. This would inevitably take this request beyond 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.

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

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. 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.

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 vehicle crimes with a created date between 01/04/2022 and 31/03/2025, 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.

	2022/2023	2023/2024	2024/2025	Total
Theft from a Motor Vehicle	13351	10788	9402	33541
Theft or Unauthorised Taking of Motor Vehicle	8243	6714	5605	20562
Total	21594	17502	15007	54103