

Date: 17/09/2025
Our ref: 01/FOI/25/015491/X

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/25/015491/X

I write in connection with your request for information dated 15/09/2025, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

I am writing under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request aggregated and anonymised statistical information held by Greater Manchester Police in relation to sexual offences and assaults in

(a) single sex changing facilities and

(b) mixed sex changing rooms

in Pools, Gyms and Leisure facilities throughout the Force's jurisdictional area, and limited to those owned or operated or managed by Local Authorities and/or their agents (including but not limited to CICs) in Bolton, Bury, Manchester, Oldham, Rochdale, Salford, Stockport, Tameside, Trafford, and Wigan.

Specifically,

A. in relation to single-sex changing facilities

- 1. The number of reported sexual offences and assaults (including sexual assault, rape, voyeurism, exposure, harassment, or related offences) that took place in mixed-sex changing room facilities within your policing area.***
- 2. A breakdown of victims by sex (in particular female victims) and by age group (minors under 18 and adults).***
- 3. The timeframe of the requested data is from January 1, 2018, to the most recent available date.***
- 4. If available, please also provide data on the location types (e.g., leisure centres, swimming pools, gyms) where these offences were reported.***

B. in relation to mixed-sex ('changing village') facilities

- 1. The number of reported sexual offences and assaults (including sexual assault, rape, voyeurism, exposure, harassment, or related offences) that took place in mixed-sex changing room facilities within your policing area.***

- 2. A breakdown of victims by sex (in particular female victims) and by age group (minors under 18 and adults).**
- 3. The timeframe of the requested data is from 1st January 2018 to the most recent available date.**
- 4. If available, please also provide data on the location types (e.g., leisure centres, swimming pools, gyms) where these offences were reported.**

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 would be unable to respond to this request as we are unable to easily extract if any rape or sexual offence took place in a single-sex or mixed-sex changing room is to manually review each crime log. This is because the information is not stored in searchable way on our systems. We have attempted to do a search of key words (such as leisure centre, changing room, gym, swimming pool), however, the MO does not specify whether this is single-sex or mixed-sex, so a review would be the only option available. A search has been carried out for all rapes and sexual offences for 2024 alone which brought back 11,965 logs to review. For this along with the remaining years requested it would exceed the 18hrs permitted to respond.

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.

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.