

Date: 13th January 2026
Our ref: FOI/26/016077/M

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: FOI/26/016077/M

I write in connection with your request for information dated 01/01/2026, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I would like to request the following information.

Dog abduction became a specific criminal offence under the Pet Abduction Act 2024.

1. For the period 1 September 2024 to 31 December 2025, please provide the number of dog abduction offences recorded per month by your force under the Pet Abduction Act 2024.

2. For each dog abduction offence recorded during this period, what outcome was recorded for the offence (for example, the relevant Home Office Outcome Code and description, or any force-specific outcome description used)?

(No personal data is requested.)

3. For dog abduction offences recorded between 1 September 2024 and 31 December 2025, please provide an aggregate breakdown showing how the following characteristics were recorded:

Breed (including "unknown" or equivalent categories)

Sex (including "unknown" or equivalent categories)

Age (including "unknown" or equivalent categories)

Result of Searches

Following receipt of your request searches were conducted within Greater Manchester Police (GMP) to locate the requested information. I can confirm the information requested is held by GMP.

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 pet abduction crimes (HO code 049/03) with a created date between 01/09/2024 and 31/12/2025, 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.
- A crime outcome of 'Missing Value' means that the investigation is ongoing and an outcome has not yet been applied.
- To provide the data below all crimes returned have been manually reviewed.

Due to low numbers per month, the totals have been merged together as by providing all this information split by month as you have requested would significantly increase the likelihood of identifying the individual(s) concerned, and as such the exemption under S40(2) – Personal Information, would be engaged and result in information being refused. By merging this data it can be provided in its entirety.

Question 1 – There is a total of 26 crimes which relate to 'dogs'.

Question 2

Outcome	Total
Evidential Difficulties Victim Based – Named suspect not identified: The crime is confirmed but the victim either declines/ or is unable to support further police investigation to identify the offender.	1
Investigation Complete: No suspect identified. Crime investigated as far as reasonably possible –Case closed pending further investigative opportunities becoming available	10
Missing Value	2
Named Suspect identified: evidential difficulties prevent further action; victim does not support (or has withdrawn support from) police action.	7
Named Suspect identified: victim supports police action but evidential difficulties prevent further action.	6

Question 3

Breed	Total
French Bulldog	2
German Shepard	1
Husky Cross	1
Akita	2
Unknown	21

Age	Total
Puppy	1
Unknown	25

Sex	Total
Female	1
Unknown	25