



Date: 23/03/2026
Our ref: 01/FOI/26/016463/S

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/26/016463/S

I write in connection with your request for information dated 25/02/2026, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

I'm looking for any data you have on the number of instances e-bikes and e-scooters have been stolen in Greater Manchester over the past five years.

If possible, a breakdown of the number of publicly-operated e-bikes/scooters (ones provided for rent by the likes of the Beryl and other providers) and the number of privately owned ones stolen would be helpful for each year.

If you need any clarification, please do let me know.

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 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 would involve a manual search of theft crimes to establish whether the stolen item was an ebike or escooter. The property stolen in thefts is not a searchable field on our crime recording system, so the only way to answer your request would be to manually review each theft crime.

A search of our crime records shows that there are approximately 35,900 crime reports 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 3,000 hours to ascertain the data required.

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

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. 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 and so no other searches have been completed at this stage.

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 able 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.