

Date: 23rd March 2026
Our ref: FOI/26/016449/U

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: FOI/26/016449/U

I write in connection with your request for information dated 23/02/2026, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

Refined Request

Please remove question 3 from the initial request.

Original Request

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, please provide the following information for the years 2023, 2024 and 2025:

1. The number of recorded offences and/or arrests relating to:

- a) Soliciting for the purposes of prostitution**
- b) Keeping or managing a brothel**
- c) Controlling prostitution for gain**
- d) Paying for sexual services**

Please break this down by year.

2. Of the individuals identified in relation to soliciting prostitution offences, how many were recorded as:

- a) Potential victims of human trafficking or modern slavery**
- b) Vulnerable adults**
- c) Referred to safeguarding services**

Please break this down by year.

3. The number of recorded crimes where the victim was identified as a sex worker, broken down by offence type (e.g. sexual assault, rape, robbery, assault). Please break this down by year.

4. The number of investigations relating to controlling prostitution for gain that resulted in:

a) Charges

b) No further action

5. Where possible, could you also identify the top five streets and areas where arrests have been made in relation to soliciting sex work?

Please provide all the data broken down by year and, where possible, in spreadsheet format.

Result of Searches

Following receipt of your request searches were conducted within Greater Manchester Police (GMP) to locate the requested information. I can confirm some of 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 crimes with a created date between '01 January 2023' and '31 December 2025', recorded under HO classifications '27 – Soliciting for the purpose of prostitution' or '24 – Exploitation of prostitution', excluding cancelled crimes and crimes classified as non-counting 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.

Due to low numbers returned, the yearly breakdown and locations in question 5 have been exempted from disclosure under Section 40(2) Personal Information – this information constitutes personal data of an identifiable living individual, and to disclose this information would breach the principles of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and the Data Protection Act 2018. Personal data is defined by Section 1 of the Data Protection Act 2018 and means data that relates to an individual who can be identified directly or indirectly from that data.

Question 1

Offence	Total
Exploitation of Prostitution	33
Soliciting for the purpose of prostitution	6

Question 2

No information held.

Question 3

Removed by the applicant.

Question 4

Please see the below outcomes for the crimes in question 1.

Outcome	Total
Caution - Adults	1

Charged/Summoned	4
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.	3
Investigation Complete: No suspect identified. Crime investigated as far as reasonably possible –Case closed pending further investigative opportunities becoming available	1
Missing Value	4
Named Suspect identified: evidential difficulties prevent further action; victim does not support (or has withdrawn support from) police action.	6
Named Suspect identified: victim supports police action but evidential difficulties prevent further action.	20

Question 5

Exempt, Section 40.

Further to the above Greater Manchester Police can neither confirm nor denies whether any other information is held, by virtue of the following exemption **Section 23(5) Information Supplied by or Concerning, Certain Security Bodies.**

Section 23 is an absolute exemption which means that legislators have identified that harm would be caused by any release, including a confirmation or denial that information is held. In addition, there is no requirement to consider the public interest test.

No inference can be drawn from this refusal that information is or isn't held.