

Date: 18th March 2026
Our ref: FOI/26/016531/N

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: FOI/26/016531/N

I write in connection with your request for information dated 09/03/2026, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

Please treat this as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. I am researching recorded "school break-ins" over the past five years.

Definition

For the purpose of this request, please interpret "school break-ins" as:

Recorded burglary or attempted burglary offences (business and community / non-residential burglary) where the recorded premises or location type is a school or educational establishment (including primary, secondary, and sixth-form/FE colleges where identifiable).

If your recording system uses alternative location classifications, please use the closest equivalent and briefly explain how this maps to the definition above.

Time period

***Please provide data for the last five complete calendar years:
2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025 (inclusive).***

If only available by financial year, please provide the closest five-year period and specify which period has been used.

Requested information (CSV/XLSX format preferred)

For each year in scope, please provide:

1. Recorded offences

- **Total number of recorded offences matching the definition above within your force area.**

In addition, where held in a structured format:

- **Number of completed burglaries**
- **Number of attempted burglaries (or nearest equivalent classification)**

2. Geographic area (structured fields only)

For each offence (or aggregated annually if preferred), please provide the structured geographic field(s) already held in your crime recording system, such as:

- **Local authority area**
- **Postcode outward code (e.g., "OX1")**

I understand that full addresses or full postcodes may engage personal data exemptions; I am only requesting structured geographic identifiers held in your system that can be disclosed.

If specific fields cannot be released, please specify which are held but exempt.

3. Outcomes

For the same offences, please provide the number assigned to each recorded outcome type per year (e.g., charge/summons, investigation complete – no suspect identified, evidential difficulties, etc.).

If Home Office outcome types are used, please specify the outcome categories.

I am not requesting narrative descriptions or manual review of individual case files.

If any element of this request would exceed the cost limit, please advise which specific part is problematic and provide the remaining information that can be disclosed within the statutory limit.

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 crimes with a created date between 01/01/2021 and 31/12/2025 where the crime tree level three field is 'burglary', 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.

We are aware of various system issues affecting **committed at locations for new and migrated crimes** (see below for details). These issues mean that data for a specific location may include crimes that did not happen in that location and/or exclude crimes that did.

- Some crimes do not have a beat code, which means that they cannot be mapped to other geographies e.g. districts.
- Some crimes have an incorrect beat code, which means that they are mapped to the wrong geographies.
- Some crimes do not have an address because e.g. the address has been recorded in a non-standard format or as map coordinates.

MO keywords are only available for **new and migrated crimes**.

The MO keywords are not mandatory and may not be completed.

- There may be relevant records missing from our response where this field has not been completed.
- As these are optional fields, an increase or decrease in crime volume where these fields are part of the filtering may not indicate a true increase or decrease of the volume of these crimes, but may reflect a change in usage of this field.

A crime outcome of 'Missing Value' means that the investigation is ongoing and an outcome has not yet been applied.

Schools may have policies that allow crimes to be resolved without being reported to the police. This means that this data may not reflect the total number of crimes that occurred in schools.

Please see the attached spreadsheet for the response data, noting the above caveats.

Due to the low numbers returned per year and location the breakdown by postcode has 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. The data has been broken down by district.