

Date: 31/03/2026
Our ref: 01/FOI/26/016620/N

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/26/016620/N

I write in connection with your request for information dated 25/03/2026, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

1. The number of officers who were part of dedicated teams to tackle retail crime and shoplifting in the years 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024 and 2025.

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, I am not obliged to supply the information you have requested as an exemption applies.

When refusing to provide such information because an exemption applies, Section 17(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 requires GMP, to provide you - the applicant - with a notice which: (a) states that fact, (b) specifies the exemption in question and (c) states (if that would not otherwise be apparent) why the exemption applies.

The information held for this FOI is exempt under **Section 21 – Information accessible to applicant by other means**. The response to this request is available online and is from 2023 to date. Please follow the link below.

[Trafford Centre to get own police station - BBC News](#)

In addition, at this time, GMP do not have any further “dedicated teams to tackle retail crime and shoplifting” outside of the above information provided. This area of crime is continuously policed in the same way as all crimes and recorded and processed.