



Date: 16/01/2026
Our ref: 01/FOI/25/016016/E

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/25/016016/E

I write in connection with your request for information dated 16/12/2025, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

1. *How many reports of sexual assault and rape have been made at men's professional football matches within your jurisdiction since 2020?*
2. *How many of the reports of sexual assault and rape that have been made at men's professional football matches within your jurisdiction since 2020 have reached an outcome of a charge or summons?*

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 for 2020-2022 would involve a manual search of all rape and sexual assault crimes that have been reported in these years to establish if they occurred at a men's professional football match.

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

As per section 12(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the cost of providing you with the information is therefore 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.

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000, this letter acts as a Refusal Notice.

GMP is obligated, pursuant to section 16(1) of the Act to provide you with advice and assistance on refining your request to bring compliance within the fees limit. In order for the force to keep this within the fees limit, the information that you are requesting will need to be reduced to a greatly reduced time period. Alternatively, you could provide a list of specific locations and dates of football matches that you would like us to search for. The resulting response cannot be guaranteed at this point as it will be dependent upon the number of records that fall within the scope of any new request, as they would still have to be manually assessed.

Should you wish to refine and resubmit your request in line with the advice above please respond to freedomofinformation@gmp.police.uk.

Although excess costs remove GMP's obligations under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, as a gesture of goodwill (see below information), I have supplied information, relative to your request, that was retrieved before it was realised that the fees limit would be exceed. I trust this is helpful, but it does not affect our legal right to rely on the fees regulations for the remainder of your request.

Records are held specific to football matches for the last four seasons. Since the start of the 2022-23 season there have been 31 reported sexual assaults, 2 of which resulted in a charge.