



Date: 06/02/2026
Our ref: 01/FOI/26/016148/K

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/26/016148/K

I write in connection with your request for information dated 11/01/2026, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I request the following information.

This request relates only to administrative offence codes, crime-recording classifications, and recording guidance.

No case-specific information, personal data, or investigative material is requested.

1. *Offence codes – Dangerous Dogs Act 1991, Section 1 Please provide the offence code(s), classification(s), or recording categories used by your force to record the following:*
 - a) *Possession or custody of a prohibited type dog (Dangerous Dogs Act 1991, s1(3))*
 - b) *Suspected prohibited type dog (prior to any confirmation)*
 - c) *Confirmed prohibited type dog, if recorded separately*
 - d) *Seizure of a dog believed to be a prohibited type (including seizures under s5 or PACE powers)*
 - e) *Breeding, selling, exchanging, advertising, or gifting a prohibited type (s1(7)) If Section 1 matters are not recorded as notifiable crimes or are not recorded on your crime system, please state this clearly.*
2. *Offence codes – Dangerous Dogs Act 1991, Section 3 Please provide the offence code(s) or classifications used to record:*
 - a) *Dog dangerously out of control causing injury*
 - b) *Dog dangerously out of control causing death*
 - c) *Dog dangerously out of control with no injury*
3. *Destruction and exemption outcomes*

Please provide any offence codes or outcome codes used to record:

- a) Destruction orders (s4)*
- b) Destruction without owner present (s4B)*
- c) Exemption orders (s4A)*
- d) Voluntary surrender or disclaimer, if recorded separately*

4. Internal or local codes

If your force uses internal or local offence codes that differ from Home Office classifications, please provide:

- a) the internal code*
- b) its description*
- c) and, where applicable, the Home Office offence category it maps to*

5. "Suspected" vs "confirmed" classification *Please confirm whether your recording system distinguishes between:*

- a) suspected prohibited type,*
- b) and confirmed prohibited type,*
- c) or whether a single code is used for all Section 1 matters regardless of status.*

6. Recording guidance

Please provide, or identify by title/reference, any written guidance or definitions used by crime-recording staff that specify:

- a) when Section 1 matters should be recorded*
- b) which offence code should be applied*
- c) how suspected versus confirmed prohibited type is recorded (if applicable)*

Notes

*Codes and descriptions only are sufficient No narrative explanation or case review is required
This request concerns administrative recording practice only This request should fall well within
FOIA cost limits*

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 some of the information you have requested is held by GMP.

- 1. This information is not held by GMP. Offence codes are issued by the Home Office, not local police forces. A list of current notifiable offences, and their codes, is available in the [Home Office Counting Rules](#).
- 2. This information is not held by GMP. Offence codes are issued by the Home Office, not local police forces. A list of current notifiable offences, and their codes, is available in the [Home Office Counting Rules](#).
- 3. This information is not held by GMP. GMP do not use any codes for this information.
- 4. Not applicable.
- 5. All dogs that come in are only suspected of being whatever type/breed, until seen by a Dog Legislation Officer (DLO). We do not always see all the dogs seized. Anything we

suspect could be a prohibited type/breed of dog we allocate it to a DLO. Once a dog is assessed by a DLO there is a second tab on our database where we record not of type, Pit Bull Terrier, XL Bully or the other prohibited breeds.

6. GMP Crime recording staff are compelled to record offences based on the Home Office Counting Rules, specifically, guidance found within the ["crime Recording Rules for Frontline officers and Staff"](#). Section "8N Owner or person in charge allowing dog to be dangerously out of control" directs that a notifiable offence is recorded based on a person being injured by ANY dog in ANY location, regardless of the class/breed of dog. It is also a notifiable offence should an assistance dog be injured by ANY dog in Any location. The Home Office's Notifiable offences list directs that the correct offence to be recorded in the above circumstances would be 008/21 which is an either way offence with a maximum sentence of 2 years. It is an offence under the Dangerous dogs act of 1991 within Sec 38 Sub sec 3(1) of the behaviour crime and policing act 2014 (sec 106).