

Date: 17/02/2026

Our ref: 01/FOI/26/016344/M

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/26/016344/M

I write in connection with your request for information dated 09/02/2026, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

- 1. the number of reported incidents of suspected vandalism, poaching, arson and trespassing on nature reserves (either National Nature Reserve or Local Nature Reserve) within your jurisdiction between January 2021 and January 2026?***
- 2. the number of cases brought against individuals or groups for alleged crimes of vandalism, poaching, arson and trespassing committed on nature reserves?***

Result of Searches

GMP cannot confirm if it holds all the information that you have requested without conducting a thorough search on your behalf

GMP would be required to undertake a substantial review to see if we hold the information relating to your request. As there is no offences relating to nature reserves specifically, a review would be needed to understand if we hold the location within any crime under criminal damage and arson crimes. Between 01/01/2021 and 31/12/25 there are 149,046 crimes that would need to be searched. To review each of these would far exceed the costs limits set out in the FOIA.

Therefore, as per section 12(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the cost of searching for the information is above the amount to which we are legally required to respond i.e. the cost of locating 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 attempt to keep this within the fees limit, the information you are requesting will need revising with a much smaller

timeframe and it would also be of use if you provided the specific HO code that you feel matches what you have asked. A search on this HO code can then be carried out. 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.