

Date: 29/12/2025
Our ref: 01/FOI/25/016050/G

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/25/016050/G

I write in connection with your request for information dated 22/12/2025, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, please provide the following information held by your police force.

1. Theft of parcels

For the most recent 24-month period for which data is available, please provide the total number of recorded crimes involving the theft of delivered parcels from:

- Residential doorsteps*
- Designated "safe places" (e.g. porches, sheds, bins, garages).*

Please include:

- A monthly breakdown (month and year)*
- The crime classification or offence code used to record these incidents.*

2. Criminal Damage Associated With Deliveries

For the same 24-month period, please provide the total number of recorded incidents of criminal damage to residential property where:

- The damage was recorded as being caused by delivery personnel*

- The damage occurred during or immediately following a delivery.

Please include:

- A monthly breakdown (month and year)

- The crime classification or offence code used.

Additional Information

If the term "porch piracy" is not used by your force, please interpret this request using the closest equivalent offence categories (for example, theft from outside a dwelling).

Please provide the information in CSV or Excel format, where possible

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. The item stolen and the occupation of the offender is not a searchable field on our crime recording system. To provide the data requested would involve a manual search of all theft and damage crimes to see if the item stolen was a parcel or if the damage was caused by a delivery driver or immediately following a delivery.

A search of our crime records shows that there are over 206,000 criminal damage crimes that would have to be manually reviewed. At a very conservative estimate of 5 minutes to locate, retrieve and review each file it would take approximately 17,167 hours to ascertain the data required, and that would only be for the criminal damage crimes, a further lengthy review would be required to answer the question about thefts.

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. 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.