

Date: 14/01/2026
Our ref: 01/FOI/25/016057/N

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/25/016057/N

I write in connection with your request for information dated 23/12/2025, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

I would like to request the following information under the Freedom of information Act.

- 1. For each of last 5 calendar years including up to the date of this request, how many dogs have been seized by the force after being assessed as being a banned breed or type?**
- 2. For each of the last 5 calendar years including up to the date of this request, on how many occasions has your force used the Interim Exemption Scheme for dogs assessed as being a banned breed or type?**
- 3. How many dogs are currently in kennels as a result of being seized as a banned breed or type by your force?**
- 4. For dogs that are currently in kennels as a result of being seized as a banned breed or type by your force, what is the average length of stay in kennels, in days? Are you able to say what the shortest and longest durations are?**
- 5. For each of the last 5 calendar years including up to the date of this request, how many times has your force been required to use a kenneling facility outside of your normal contracted kennels due to capacity issues?**
- 6. Are you able to estimate at what percentage of kennel capacity your force is currently operating in regard to dogs housed in contracted kennels due to being assessed as being a banned breed?**

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, GMP does not hold the information that you have requested in an easily retrievable format.

GMP would be unable to provide the data in an accurate format without carrying out a manual review for all the dogs seized in 2024. This is because it is not possible to provide accurate data for the numbers of prohibited dogs identified by a Dog Legislation Officer for the year 2024. This information contains the ban on XL bullies which came into force on the 01/02/24 and so to respond accurately would require reviewing over 450 records and to cross reference them with the property entry and in some case examine case files. This piece of work would take in the region of 36-38hrs on the basis that each review is a minimum of 5minutes each.

Therefore, as per **Section 12(1)** of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the cost of providing you with the information is 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.

If one part of the request engages a Section 12 response, the whole request will engage a Section 12 response. The reason being is locating, retrieving and extracting any further information would only add to the already exceeded time obligations

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 reduction in the information required or a change in wording, for example for q1 you could ask for the yearly breakdown on the figures for Section 1 and 3 of the DDA 1991 which would cover suspected prohibited types/breeds of dogs seized.

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.