

Date: 15th July 2026
Our ref: FOI/26/017190/Q

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: FOI/26/017190/Q

I write in connection with your request for information dated 06/07/2026, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

I am seeking information on the following offences under the Public Order Act 2023: Section 1 (locking on), Section 2 (being equipped to lock on) and Section 7 (interference with the use or operation of key national infrastructure).

For each offence, please provide:

- 1. The number of arrests***
- 2. The number of individuals charged***
- 3. The number of individuals released without further action***
- 4. The number of cases referred to CPS for a charging decision (where recorded).***
- 5. Where possible, please provide the figures in annual breakdowns.***

I am looking for this data from 3rd May 2023 (when the Public Order Act received Royal Assent) to the date this request is processed.

Result of Searches

Following receipt of your request searches were conducted within Greater Manchester Police (GMP) to locate the requested information. I can confirm the information requested is held by GMP.

Caveats:

In July 2019, GMP implemented one of the largest IT infrastructure changes in UK policing – the systems are in continual development and the data provided for this request is what the systems currently hold. Any data provided for this request is subject to change as crimes are progressed and/or updated.

Management of Police Information regulations state that non-essential records should be removed from police systems six financial years after the year in which they were originally created. This means that data that is more than six financial years old may be incomplete and should not be compared to more recent data.

With the above caveats in mind:

I have searched our system for Custody Records for arrests with the below parameters:

- Between dates: 03/05/2023 – 13/07/2026,
- Section 1 POA 2023 (Lock on to person/object/land to cause serious disruption). CJS Code: PU23001
- Section 2 POA 2023 (Being equipped to lock on). CJS Code: PU23002
- Section 7 POA 2023 (Interfere with use/operation of key national infrastructure). CJS Code: PU23003
- Including the 'Offence Decision' as DP has left Custody.

Year	Total	Charged	No Further Action	Ongoing
2024	10	9	1	0
2025	5	0	5	0
2026	6	3	1	2