

Date: 21/07/2026
Our ref: 01/FOI/26/017198/Y

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/26/017198/Y

I write in connection with your request for information dated 08/07/2026, received by Greater Manchester Police (GMP) for the following information:

- 1. In the following years, please provide figures for:**
 - a. the number of child sexual abuse cases your force investigated during 1 Jan – 31 Dec 2020, 1 Jan – 31 Dec 2021, 1 Jan – 31 Dec 2022, 1 Jan – 31 Dec 2023, 1 Jan – 31 Dec 2024, 1 Jan – 31 Dec 2025 and 1 Jan – 30 June 2026.**
 - b. Please provide an ethnic and gender breakdown of the suspect for each corresponding year in a table. When it comes to ethnicity, please make clear whether it is self-defined ethnicity or officer ethnicity. If possible, please give both sets of data.**
 - c. Please provide an ethnic and gender breakdown of the victims/survivors for each corresponding year in a table. When it comes to ethnicity, please make clear whether it is self-defined ethnicity or officer ethnicity. If possible, please give both sets of data.**
 - d. Please provide the ages of the youngest and oldest child sexually abused/exploited for each corresponding year in a table.**
 - e. Please provide figures for the number of cases which resulted in the arrests of suspects.**
 - f. Please provide the outcomes of the arrests e.g., no further action, charged, sent to crown court or whichever way you record outcomes.**
- 2. Turning to 'group-based child sexual exploitation/abuse', in other words so-called 'grooming gangs'. In the following years, please provide figures for:**

- a. *the number of group-based child sexual exploitation/abuse' cases your force investigated during the following years: 1 Jan – 31 Dec 2020, 1 Jan – 31 Dec 2021, 1 Jan – 31 Dec 2022, 1 Jan – 31 Dec 2023, 1 Jan – 31 Dec 2024, 1 Jan – 31 Dec 2025 and 1 Jan – 30 June 2026.*
- b. *Please provide an ethnic and gender breakdown of the suspects for each corresponding year in a table. When it comes to ethnicity, please make clear whether it is self-defined ethnicity or officer ethnicity. If possible, please give both sets of data.*
- c. *Please provide an ethnic and gender breakdown of the victims/survivors for each corresponding year in a table. When it comes to ethnicity, please make clear whether it is self-defined ethnicity or officer ethnicity. If possible, please give both sets of data.*
- d. *Please provide the ages of the youngest and oldest child sexually abused/exploited for each corresponding year in a table.*
- e. *Please provide figures for the number of cases which resulted in the arrests of suspects.*
- f. *Please provide the outcomes of the arrests e.g., no further action, charged, sent to crown court or whichever way you record outcomes.*

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 some of the information requested may be held by GMP.

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

To comply with this request, Greater Manchester Police would need to undertake an exceptionally large-scale review and research project spanning more than five years of Child Sexual Exploitation investigations. The information requested, including the individual breakdowns, is not held in a single central location. Consequently, extracting this data would require extensive cross-departmental collaboration, as information is distributed across various internal systems and other areas of the force. Performing this exercise would far exceed the 18-hour statutory limit required to provide a response.

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.

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 substantially reduced time frame along with a reduction in the volume of requested information. With any request that requires a manual review there is always a chance of a request being refused under S12 due to the enormity of work that is usually needed to provide the data, therefore 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.