

Date: 07/07/2026
Our ref: 01/FOI/26/017191/R

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST REFERENCE NO: 01/FOI/26/017191/R

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

How many reports of sexual offences on the Metrolink tram network were reported to Greater Manchester Police between 2015 and 2025? Please could I have the results broken down by year.

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.

Fulfilling this request in full requires a comprehensive manual review of all crimes categorised under "rape" and "other sexual offences". This must be followed by a keyword search within the crime MO for the terms "Metro" and "Tram". This is the only method available to extract the data required to answer this FOI request. Initial searches for the years 2023 to 2025 have been carried out, revealing 279 results that match the above filters. Each of these 279 records would then have to be checked to ensure the crime took place on the Metrolink tram network. At a rate of around five minutes per review, this response would take in the region of 23 hours for the three years mentioned. This time would be further extended to complete the full timeframe you have provided.

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 reduced time frame and it would help if you provided a list of keywords to use if you felt Metro and tram did not meet your request.

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.